

# STARS AND STRIPES<sup>®</sup>

**Sandler ponders fatherhood after 'Spanglish' role**

Page 18



Actor Adam Sandler

**Troops to get \$1.3M payout in improper insurance sales**

Page 7



**Testimony begins in case against Abu Ghraib guard**

Page 3

Army Spc. Charles Graner

Volume 2, No. 274 © SS 2005 MIDEAST EDITION

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2005

## Fitting body armor for today's warrior

With troops surviving with leg, arm injuries, researchers look to gridiron to boost protection

Page 4

Dr. James Thigard of Florida State University



Green Bay Packers quarterback Brett Favre is sacked by the Minnesota Vikings' Chris Claiborne during the first quarter of their NFL playoff game on Sunday at Lambeau Field in Green Bay, Wis. Minnesota won 31-17.

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL/KRT

## Pack, Broncos knocked flat in NFL playoffs

■ Favre considering retirement after throwing 4 interceptions against Vikings

■ Minnesota WR Moss stirs up more controversy with TD gesture

■ Colts QB Manning voted NFL MVP day after torching Denver for 457 yards, 4 TDs



Colts' Peyton Manning

Back page, Pages 27-29

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circulation with  
questions about  
delivery at

49-6155-601-455  
DSN: 349-8455

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## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

### World

**Ukraine elections:** Ukraine's Supreme Court on Monday turned down an array of appeals of last month's presidential election results filed by allies of Viktor Yanukovich, the former prime minister whom preliminary results show lost to a Western-leaning reformer.

The court at midday announced it had rejected four appeals, and Central Elections Commission head Yaroslav Davydovych later said four other complaints had been turned down by the court. The rejections put Yanukovich in an increasingly tight corner.

"There are no more appeals" in the Supreme Court, Davydovych said, adding the commission was ready to begin a session aimed at announcing final official results of the Dec. 26 vote apparently won by opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko. That vote was a court-ordered rerun of a Nov. 21 ballot that was annulled after allegations that massive fraud had given Yanukovich the victory.

**U.S. and N. Korean talks:** An American congressman traveling in North Korea held talks with senior North Korean officials on Monday, an official news agency said.

Tom Lantos, the ranking Democrat on the House International Relations Committee, held talks with Yang Hyong Sop, vice president of the Presidium of the North's Supreme People's Assembly, at the Mansudae Assembly Hall, the North's official Korean Central News Agency said.

Lantos also met North Korean Foreign Minister Park Nam Sun on Monday.

**Vietnam bird flu:** Another person has died of bird flu in Vietnam, the country's third death from the virus in less than two weeks, a doctor said Monday.

A 16-year-old girl from Dong Thap province died Saturday after spending two weeks battling with a respiratory ailment at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases in Ho Chi Minh City, said hospital deputy director Tran Tinh Hien.

The girl, who had earlier tested positive for the H5N1 strain of bird flu, had eaten sick chickens, doctors say. Hien said the hospital was treating two other patients suspected of having caught bird flu. Tests were being conducted, he added.

**Widow to pursue protest:** The widow of Philippines presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr. asked the Supreme Court Monday to be allowed to pursue her husband's electoral protest, which alleges the actor-turned-politician was robbed of the presidency.

Poe died of a stroke last month without conceding defeat to President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo in the election last May. The actor and his running mate, Loren Legarda, alleged massive irregularities and fraud marred the polls, which they claimed to have won by 1.1 million votes.

There have been suggestions from Poe supporters that his widow, actress Susan Roces, should now lead the opposition.

### States

**Pilot drinking case:** The Supreme Court let stand Monday a lower ruling that allows Florida state prosecutors to pursue charges against two fired America West pilots accused of being drunk in the cockpit.

Without comment, justices turned aside the appeal from Thomas Cloyd of Peoria, Ariz., and co-pilot Christopher Hughes of Leander, Texas. The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of



**More work on Diana fountain:** Workmen lift decking mats at the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fountain in London's Hyde Park on Monday to replace worn turf, extend the path and improve drainage. Repairs to the ill-fated fountain will mean it will be closed for four months, with plans to reopen on May 1. Thousands of tourists have flocked to the \$6.73 million fountain, designed by American Kathryn Gustafson, since it was officially opened by the Queen Elizabeth II on July 6. But the memorial has been beset by problems.

Appeals in Atlanta had ruled in July that Florida's prosecution should have run its course before the federal courts got involved.

The pilots had backed their Airbus, carrying 124 passengers, from a gate at Miami International Airport for a flight to Phoenix in July 2002. Miami-Dade Police Officers, alerted by airport security guards that the pilots had smelled of alcohol when leaving the terminal to board their plane, raced to stop the jet and had it returned to the gate before takeoff.

**Lawsuits in San Diego election:** In Florida in 2000, it was hanging chads. Now, the outcome of San Diego's mayoral race hinges on empty bubbles.

Attorneys who want to unseat San Diego Mayor Dick Murphy are bound for court, arguing that he wrongly began a second term last month. Two lawsuits contend the county registrar ignored voter intent by disqualifying ballots for wrote-in candidate Donna Frye because voters failed to darken an adjoining oval.

Legal experts said that while courts do give weight to voter intent, Frye's supporters may have a tough time because state election law was not followed exactly as stated.

**Tulia drug busts:** When former police officer Tom Coleman goes on trial in Lubbock, Texas, someone from his past plans to be watching in the courtroom: Joe Welton Moore, who spent four years in prison based on Coleman's discredited drug busts in Tullia.

Moore, who had been sentenced to 90 years, was one of dozens of people pardoned following a 2003 hearing to determine if some of the people arrested — most of them black — in the small farming community received fair trials.

Jury selection in Coleman's perjury trial was scheduled Monday, and was expected to last about a week. If convicted, he could face up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine on each felony charge.

**Jackson case past evidence:** Lawyers for Michael Jackson urged a judge in Santa Maria, Calif., to deny a prosecution request to present evidence of alleged past sexual offenses during the pop singer's upcoming child molestation trial.

"This is the same evidence" that left two separate grand juries so unimpressed with the prosecution's case that they did not return indictments," Jackson's lawyer, Robert Sanger, said in court documents released Friday.

Superior Court Judge Rodney Melville will hear arguments on the issue Wednesday.

**Peterson case reward:** The five dog-walkers who found the decomposed bodies of Laci Peterson and her unborn fetus on the shoreline will split a \$50,000 reward from a fund generally used for the safe return of missing persons.

"It is with great pain that we have to pay this reward," said Kim Petersen, executive director of the Carole Sund/Carrington Memorial Reward Foundation. "But it's better than spending years and years not knowing."

Two of the dog-walkers testified at Scott Peterson's murder trial last year. The names of the other reward recipients were not released, and Petersen said at a news conference that all five recipients wished to remain anonymous.

### Military

**Submarine aground:** The sailor killed when a nuclear submarine ran aground off Guam on Sunday was identified as Machinist Mate 2nd Class Joseph Allen Ashley, 24, of Akron, Ohio.

Ashley, who had recently re-enlisted for five more years, died when a nuclear submarine ran aground, damaging the vessel's bow but leaving its reactor plant intact, authorities said.

The submarine reached its home port of Apra Harbor in Guam on Monday under its own power, a Navy spokesman said. The Navy said 23 other people were injured Saturday, when the USS San Francisco ran aground about 350 miles south of Guam.

Photos and stories from staff and wire reports

# 2 GIs killed when Bradley hits IED in Baghdad

## 4 others hurt; Iraqi police official, son assassinated

BY DUSAN STOJANOVIC  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A roadside bomb exploded in southern Baghdad on Monday, destroying a heavily armored Bradley fighting vehicle and killing two American soldiers, the military said, while insurgents shot dead Baghdad's deputy police chief and his son Monday, police said.

The Bradley is one of the more heavily armored vehicles in the U.S. arsenal, suggesting that the bomb was quite powerful. The U.S. Defense Department said last week that insurgents were increasing the size and power of the bombs they plant as they escalate their attacks before the Jan. 30 election.

Four American soldiers were wounded in the blast, which came four days after a powerful roadside bomb hit another Bradley Fighting Vehicle, killing all seven U.S. soldiers inside and destroying the vehicle. The U.S. military had earlier said Monday's blast destroyed an Abrams battle tank, but later corrected that.

Scores of police and regional government officials have been assassinated in recent months, part of the insurgents' campaign to try to instill fear ahead of the vote and to hunt down people who are perceived as collaborators with the U.S.-led coalition. Last Tuesday, gunmen shot dead the governor of Baghdad, Ali al-Haidari, and six of his bodyguards.

Iraqi Interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi said Monday that the authorities have captured 147 suspected insurgents throughout the country, including the leader of an insurgent group that Allawi said he took over for the previous chief, who was detained two months ago.

Allawi identified the man as Raad al-Doury. He took over the



A hospital worker covers the body of Lt. Khalid Amer, son of deputy police chief of Baghdad, Brig. Amer Ali Nayeri, outside the Yarmouk hospital morgue in Baghdad on Monday. Both were assassinated in Baghdad's south Dora district while traveling in a car on their way to work.

top post of Jaish Muhammad, which is Arabic for Muhammad's Army, from Moayad Ahmed Yasseen, detained in November. Alawi has accused Jaish Muhammad of killing and beheading a number of Iraqis, Arabs and foreigners in Iraq.

Baghdad's deputy police chief, Brig. Amer Ali Nayeri was assassinated with his son, Lt. Khalid Amer, also a police officer. They were killed in Baghdad's south Dora district while traveling in a car on their way to work, Interior Ministry spokesman Capt. Ahmed Ismail said.

Gunmen sprayed machine-gun fire from two cars which were driving parallel with the police chief's vehicle, before fleeing the scene of the attack close to his home, police said. The two were alone in their car.

Al-Qaida in Iraq, the group led by Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, posted a statement on

the Internet claiming responsibility for the Baghdad assassinations. It described Nayeri and Amer as foreign "agents," and warned Iraqis cooperating with the U.S.-led military that they would meet the same fate.

In a separate attack Monday, a suicide car bomb exploded in the courtyard of a police station in southern Baghdad, killing at least four policemen and wounding 10 others, police and witnesses said. A fake police car packed with explosives was used in the attack.

The Army of Ansar al-Sunna, one of the most violent militant groups in Iraq, claimed responsibility for the attack.

In other violence Monday, three Iraqi National Guard soldiers were killed and six were injured in the restive northern city of Mosul when their joint patrol with U.S. troops was attacked by a roadside bomb, said Maj. Andrew Hance, a U.S. military spokesman.

There were no American casualties.

The U.S. military said its forces accidentally killed a 13-year-old Iraqi girl and wounded a 14-year-old boy near Bagdadi, 35 miles northwest of Baghdad, "when a 1st Infantry Division observation post engaged an area producing unidentified smoke outside of a local forward operating base."

On Monday, a militant group posted threats in at least two towns warning it would deploy "highly trained" snipers to target voters around Iraq during Jan. 30 elections.

The statement, signed by the previously unknown Secret Republican Army, said 32 snipers will stalk voters outside polling in Wasit, a largely Shiite province south of Baghdad that includes Kut, Numaniya and Suwayri. It didn't say how many would be sent elsewhere.

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

-The Associated Press

As of Sunday, Jan. 9 at least 1,353 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,056 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is 11 higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. Friday.

The British military has reported 76 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 16; Ukraine, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Latvia and Kazakhstan one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,214 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 947 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ A U.S. soldier assigned to Task Force Baghdad was killed Sunday after a patrol was struck by an explosive.

■ A Marine was killed in action in Iraq's Anbar province.

The latest identifications reported by the Defense Department:

■ Army Pfc. Daniel F. Gustafson, 27, Las Vegas; died Friday in Ramadi, Iraq, when his vehicle crashed; assigned to the 1st Infantry Division's 1st Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, Camp Casey, South Korea.

# Witness in abuse trial says Graner punched Iraqi detainee

BY T.A. BADGER  
The Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas — A military guard at Abu Ghraib testified Monday that he saw Spc. Charles Graner Jr. punch an Iraqi detainee in the face, but that he didn't see Graner during an alleged sexual humiliation incident at the Baghdad prison.

Spc. Matthew Wisdom, the first witness in Graner's prisoner abuse trial, said Graner was among a number of guards who punched and detained on Nov. 7, 2003. Graner is the first soldier to be tried in the case, and prosecutors say he was the ringleader of the abuse.

Wisdom's testimony corroborates a prominent photo from Abu Ghraib that showed the muscular Graner holding a detainee as if he were about to strike him in the face. The witness said Graner cocked

his arm while the picture was taken, and then he punched the detainee.

Asked how hard Graner hit the prisoner, Wisdom said, "If I was that detainee, I know that it would be very painful."

Wisdom said he was urged to participate in abuse, but that he instead reported it to his immediate superior.

"I was very upset," he said. "It made me kind of sick, almost. It didn't seem right."

Graner, a 36-year-old former prison guard from Uniontown, Pa., is charged with conspiracy to maltreat Iraqi detain-



Graner

ees, assault, dereliction of duty and committing indecent acts.

The defense contends that Graner was told by higher-ranking soldiers and intelligence agents to rough up the detainees prior to interrogation, and that he had no choice but to obey despite personal misgivings.

An all-male group of four Army officers and six senior enlisted men will decide his fate in what is expected to be a weeklong trial. If convicted on all counts, he faces up to 17½ years in a military prison.

Under military law, a conviction requires guilty votes by seven of the 10 jurors, all of whom have served in either Iraq or Afghanistan.

Wisdom testified that he did not see Graner when a naked Iraqi was allegedly forced to masturbate. That incident is the basis of one of the maltreatment charges

against Graner.

But another member of the 372nd Military Police Company said Graner was not only there, but that the defendant photographed a simulated sex scene.

Pvt. Jeremy Slivits, who in May pleaded guilty to taking part in abuse, said Graner was in charge of stacking naked prisoners into a human pyramid with which he later posed for pictures.

"He was trying to get the job done, but he was also laughing and having a good time," said Slivits, who told the court that his testimony against Graner was stipulated in his plea deal.

Two other members of Graner's unit who have made plea deals, Ivan Frederick and Megan Ambuhl, are also scheduled to testify against him.

Sgt. Joseph Darby, who first reported the alleged abuse, also is scheduled to appear. As many as three Iraqi detainees may testify via videotaped deposition.

# From the football field to the battlefield

## Researchers borrow from sports padding design to help improve body armor, save lives

BY BRENT KALLESTAD

The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Spc. Robert Loria's life was changed when a roadside bomb blasted his Humvee in Iraq. With no armor on the vehicle or his body, the Middletown, N.Y., soldier lost part of his left arm and suffered other injuries.

"I can't be too angry," he said in a recent telephone interview from his home. "Things happen for a reason. It was God's intent. It just so happened it was my time." Loria has taken a philosophical approach to his injuries, but critics of the U.S. military say inadequate armor is costing many troops their lives and limbs in an increasing Iraqi insurgency.

Injuries like those he suffered are prompting the military to come up with answers to give the troops more protection. But the helmets and bulletproof vests that soldiers now wear don't protect their arms and legs. And many, who suffer blasts such as the roadside bomb that injured Loria in February, are losing limbs or are bleeding to death because their extremities are exposed.

Researchers at Florida State University and Jacksonville armored-equipment manufacturer Armor Holdings think they have a solution. They are developing lightweight armor for soldiers' arms and legs that could reduce fatalities and loss of limbs.

"Most of the folks who die over there, die from flying debris, they bleed to death," said lead researcher James Thagard, a visiting assistant professor at FSU's engineering school. "We hope to help save lives and help save limbs. It's not feasible to believe we can protect everybody."

Thagard's team is experimenting with polymers toughened with carbon nanotubes (a tube structure made from carbon molecules) to strengthen fabrics used to make bulletproof armor. The developers bound multiple layers of fabric and plastic materials together to create the armor.

The school's researchers have begun making prototype pieces similar to pads worn by football and hockey players, which will be given to Armor Holdings to manufacture on a broad scale for field-test-



James Thagard holds a new body armor material he developed in his lab at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Fla.

ing. Armor Holdings already manufactures vests and other plates that soldiers wear to protect their torso.

The developers will first focus on armor protection for the upper arm and shoulder areas, where bleeding wounds can be fatal, then for the forearms and legs. The armor likely will be field-tested at military training facilities in the coming weeks to determine if it can be comfortably worn and isn't too bulky for soldiers.

Thanks in part to bulletproof vests, the survival rate for soldiers injured in Iraq is the highest of any war in U.S. history.

But many of the injured troops have had their arms and legs blown off. And most deaths result from excessive bleeding. Thagard believes the new armor will help reduce those injuries and deaths.

"The reality is you can't protect everybody from everything," Thagard said. "If we can reduce 15 percent or (even) 10 percent of the casualties, or protect these soldiers from losing their arms or losing their legs, that's huge."

Since the start of the war in Iraq, more

than 10,000 troops have been wounded and another 1,335 have been killed. Nearly 90 percent of the Americans wounded in Iraq survive, compared with 78 percent in the 1991 Persian Gulf War and 73 percent in Vietnam.

In Iraq, many injuries and deaths result from car bombs or improvised explosive devices, known as IEDs. There was far too little advanced body armor and there were too few armored vehicles to deal with what the Pentagon has acknowledged is a far stronger and longer insurgency than expected. The issue of inadequate protection for troops was highlighted recently when a U.S. soldier complained to Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld in Kuwait that troops have to scrounge landfills for scrap metal and discarded bullet-resistant glass to provide armor for their vehicles.

"This case has come up many times," Loria said. "I've seen where people didn't want to do missions because they didn't have proper equipment."

Armor Holdings, one of several companies that manufactures protective equipment for the military, has provided an ini-

tial grant of \$100,000 to FSU to cover two months of research. The partnership is the latest area of high-tech, composite-materials research at the Florida Advanced Center for Composite Technologies.

Besides the new body armor, Thagard and other researchers have developed lightweight, custom leg supports for various uses. One brace, for example, helps Navy Seabee Anthony Muller of Jacksonville to walk after he sustained a severe leg wound in Iraq.

Ballistics tests show the combination of materials for the body armor being developed at Florida State exceed the new requirements for bulletproof vests and still fit comfortably over the body areas they're designed to protect.

The improved protection was something Loria could have used. He lost part of his left arm three inches above the wrist when hot metal fragments from the explosion ripped into the Humvee he was driving.

"I couldn't tell my commanding officers I'm not going to do this mission because I don't have the proper equipment," Loria said. "It really doesn't matter. You still have to do it."



PRESS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT OF PAKISTAN/AP

Chief of the U.S. Central Command Gen. John Abizaid, right, meets Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf on Monday at President House in Islamabad, Pakistan. Abizaid is in Pakistan for talks with Musharraf and other senior officials on the situation in the region.

## Abizaid talks with Musharraf in Pakistan

BY SADAQAT JAN

The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Gen. John Abizaid, the chief of the U.S. Central Command, held talks on Monday with Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf during a brief visit to discuss the situation in the region, U.S. and Pakistani officials said.

Abizaid is visiting Pakistan for "regular consultations," U.S. Embassy spokesman Greg Crouch said. Abizaid arrived on Sunday from neighboring Afghanistan, where he met with senior U.S. commanders and President Hamid Karzai, but made no public comment.

In the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, Abizaid met with Musharraf, a senior official in Musharraf's of-

fice said on condition of anonymity. He did not have details of the meeting.

In the talks, Musharraf said Pakistan and the United States have "excellent" relations and hoped that Abizaid's visit will strengthen them, the military-run Inter-Services Public Relations said in a statement after the meeting.

Abizaid also visited the headquarters of the Pakistan army in Rawalpindi, a city near Islamabad, and held talks with deputy chief of army Gen. Ahsan Saleem Hyat, it said.

Abizaid held discussions with Pakistani officials on "regional issues of mutual interest," said Crouch, the U.S. Embassy spokesman.

Abizaid's Florida-based Cen-

tral Command has responsibility for American military operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, other parts of the Persian Gulf and Central Asia, and the Horn of Africa.

Abizaid is a frequent visitor to Pakistan, a key ally in the U.S.-led war against terrorism, although he rarely makes public comments.

Thousands of American troops and allied forces are trying to hunt down Osama bin Laden, the al-Qaida associates and Taliban fugitives along the border between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Pakistan has arrested hundreds of al-Qaida suspects since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in America and has deployed thousands of troops to its tribal regions bordering Afghanistan to net foreign militants believed to be hiding there.



Cpl. Ben McGuire, left, and Sgt. William Henderson, of 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, patrol a stretch of road on the Hit-Hadithah Corridor.

PHOTOS BY JOSEPH GIORDONO/Stars and Stripes

## Before Iraqi elections, U.S. troops face security challenge in Anbar

BY JOSEPH GIORDONO

Stars and Stripes

HADITHAH, Iraq — It is a stretch of barren, desert road that runs for about 60 miles between what would normally be two unremarkable Iraqi towns on the Euphrates River. But the Hit-Hadithah Corridor, and the Marines assigned to the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit who patrol it, stand as a stark reminder of the challenges facing the U.S. mission.

The corridor runs through western Anbar province. It is littered with roadside bombs; local officials have balked at the push for Jan. 30 elections; and the U.S. military and the insurgents have waged an ongoing war for the support of the local population.

"Things will be pretty interesting over the next few weeks," said Staff Sgt. William Henderson, who leads a Mobile Assault Platoon in security patrols of the area.

"Some days they like us, some days they don't," said Staff Sgt. Thomas Watson, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, of the towns the Marines patrol. "The little kids still smile and wave, because they're expecting candy. The older kids get, the less they smile at us. Reality is what it is."

With Iraq's national elections less than three weeks away, Marines on the ground say they have a sense that critical mass is approaching. While the U.S. mission in Iraq will not be made or broken by the elections, they said, it seems much of their effort is coming to an end.

Now, the soldiers and Marines around Iraq must meet their biggest challenge. Providing security for those willing to vote.

On Friday, President Bush told reporters in Washington that keeping the elections on course will be a daunting task for the U.S. military, especially in four of Iraq's 18 provinces.



Staff Sgt. Thomas Watson, of 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, keeps lookout during a convoy from Al Asad to Hadithah. Many Marine units have vehicles that lack full armored protection.

One of those four is Anbar, which also includes the cities of Ramadi and Fallujah.

Attacks on U.S. troops currently average 70 a day and military officials expect attacks to increase to 85 a day as the election nears.

Marine commanders in Anbar have been given more physical assets to deal with.

Last week in a meeting that included the local Iraqi National Guard general, Lt. Col. Greg Stevens, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment commander, pulled the general aside.

"When you get back to Hit, I've got a surprise for you," Stevens said in a stage whisper, smiling broadly. "Actually, four surprises. And they each weigh about 70 tons."

The surprises were Abrams

main battle tanks, an imposing presence both physically and psychologically. The Marines have deployed them in several areas throughout the Hit-Hadithah Corridor, Stevens said. Marines in the area have largely operated from Humvees and trucks, instead of heavy armor vehicles.

Vehicle armor remains an issue with some of the Marines patrolling the corridor, they said.

Some Marines patrol in "high-backs" — Humvees with open beds surrounded by high pieces of metal. Other escort convoys in Humvees with soft canvas tops, no windows and metal-panel doors that won't stay shut.

Other units have fully armored M1114 Humvees, the heaviest in the U.S. arsenal. Sometimes, though, they are given to personnel who rarely leave the wire.

"I'm sure the pogues need those," muttered Staff Sgt. Edwin Morgenthaler, pulling out with a convoy of lightly armored vehicles, using military slang for soldiers or Marines whose jobs keep them on base.

But armor isn't everything.

On Saturday, Marines were talking about the seven soldiers killed near Baghdad by a massive roadside bomb detonated under their 25-ton Bradley fighting vehicle.

Soldiers and Marines have been remarkably open about voicing their concerns. They wonder frequently about whether people in their hometowns realize how cold it is in Iraq right now, how frequently they put themselves at risk or how many of their friends have been killed or wounded.

"Look, a lot of these guys should be back at college or taking their girl out to a movie," said one senior officer in a Marine Force Reserve battalion. "I don't know if the people back home really understand what they're doing on a day-to-day basis."

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# Anbar province electoral board resigns, hides

By JACKIE SPINNER

The Washington Post

BAGHDAD — In another significant blow to Iraq's upcoming elections, the entire 13-member electoral commission in the volatile province of Anbar, west of the capital, resigned after being threatened by insurgents, a regional newspaper reported Sunday.

Saad Abdul-Aziz Rawi, the head of the commission, told the newspaper that it was "impossible to hold elections" in the Sunni-dominated province, where insurgent attacks have prevented voter registration. The restive cities of Fallujah and Ramadi are located in the province.

"They are kidding themselves," Rawi said about officials

hopeful that elections, set for Jan. 30, could take place in Anbar.

An Iraqi interviewed at the commission's office said the members had resigned and had gone into hiding.

Iraqi and U.S. officials have said Sunni participation in the election was necessary for the vote to be considered legitimate. The largest political party representing the Sunnis announced last month that it would drop out of the election, the country's first democratic election.

Insurgents have mounted a bloody campaign in the weeks leading up to the election, targeting election workers, political party leaders and other participants. The U.S. military has stepped up operations to stop the violence, but almost daily attacks continue to grip the country.

## Britain to send 400 more troops to Iraq

LONDON — Britain will send another 400 troops to Iraq ahead of elections there, Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon said Monday.

The soldiers from the 1st Battalion Royal Highland Fusiliers will be sent from Cyprus to southeast Iraq, Hoon told lawmakers in the House of Commons.

The move will boost British troop levels in Iraq to about 9,000 — the second-highest total in the coalition after the United States. Most are based in the south near the city of Basra.

Hoon said the deployment was being made on the recommendation of the British commanding officer on the ground and would be "for a limited period of time."

The Pentagon has swelled U.S. forces in Iraq by 12,000 in an effort to provide security for the coming elections, but that new deployment is expected to be temporary.

Iraqis will vote Jan. 30 in landmark elections for a constitutional assembly. Many Sunni-dominated parts of the country have been torn by violence in the run-up to the ballot.

## Army baby boom in Colorado

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Nine months after thousands of soldiers returned home to Fort Carson from Iraq, Evans Army Community Hospital is swamped with mothers-to-be. The hospital had 102 births in December and arranged for an additional 49 Army babies to be delivered at civilian hospitals in nearby Colorado Springs. This month, Evans expects 108 babies, up from 69 last January.

## U.S. Marine who fought in Iraq faces deportation

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — A U.S. Marine who went to battle in Iraq after he served a sentence for adultery and sodomy is fighting a deportation order to his native Haiti.

Cpl. Philippe Louis-Jean, 25, was court-martialed in 2002 for having oral sex with a Marine sergeant's stepdaughter, who was a minor. He was demoted and sentenced to 45 days, but released early for good behavior, then sent to Iraq where his weapons company fought from Kuwait to Baghdad, where it secured Saddam Hussein's palace on April 10, 2003.

The night before, his armored personnel carrier was hit by three rocket-propelled grenades. Louis-Jean was not wounded but four Marines were killed.

He returned to his home base in Camp Pendleton, Calif., a month later, and was promoted to corporal.

But in March 2004, Homeland Security officers arrested Louis-Jean under a 1996 anti-terrorist law designed to protect America from its enemies. Louis-Jean was not accused of terrorism.

But the tough law transformed his military offense of adultery to a deportable immigration crime of sexual abuse of a minor.

From The Associated Press

# Taliban scatters as U.S. still hunts bin Laden

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Osama bin Laden may be hiding in Afghanistan, while followers of the former ruler Taliban who once harbored the al-Qaida leader appear to be fragmenting, a U.S. commander said Monday.

Col. Gary Cheek, who controls American forces in eastern Afghanistan, told The Associated Press that bin Laden and other key militant leaders could be in his area of responsibility, a swath of the country flanking the rugged Pakistani border.

Cheek said the number of foreign fighters facing his forces was not "significant" and that most operated near the rugged Pakistani frontier, the zone most widely tout-

ed as a hiding place for bin Laden and his right-hand man, Ayman al-Zawahiri.

Forces loyal to Taliban commanders such as Jalaluddin Haqqani and renegade warlord Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who has joined the ousted militia in vowing to drive out foreign troops, pose a larger military threat than the foreign fighters.

"Leaders like Hekmatyar, Haqqani, bin Laden could possibly be in our region," Cheek said in an e-mailed response to an AP reporter's questions.

He added that any information the military has on them would not be released "for operational reasons."

Three years after the U.S. military invaded Afghanistan to oust the Taliban and try to kill or capture bin Laden, American officials say they do not know where he is.

However, Afghan President Hamid Karzai said last month that bin Laden was "definitely" still in the region.

About 18,000 mainly American soldiers are pursuing militants mainly in the south and east of the country.

Speculation about bin Laden's whereabouts has centered on the Pakistan-Afghan border region, particularly areas populated by tribes that share the Taliban's tough interpretation of Islam and where foreign veterans of the 1980s war against Soviet forces in Afghanistan settled.

Pakistan has mounted a series of bloody military operations there, claiming to have killed or captured hundreds of foreign fighters and to have found no trace of bin Laden.

Meanwhile, a stubborn Taliban-led insurgency rumbles on.

Cheek said insurgent activity in the east had been "sporadic over the past six months and does not appear tied to any specific strategy or agenda."

"It would appear that the Taliban in particular may be fragmenting and that its central core of leadership is unable to direct coordinated actions," he said. "I would guess that there are a lot of things the Taliban and others want to do, but their ability to do those things are limited."

He said most of the leaders he was tracking are local commanders suspected of attacks and bombings.

A roadside bomb killed a U.S. soldier Jan. 2 in eastern Kunar province, but Cheek suggested criminal activity was a bigger problem in that region, where Hekmatyar loyalists are believed to find sanctuary among sympathetic villagers.



PHOTOS BY JASON CHUDY/Stars and Stripes

**Left:** Pfc. Victor Gayton opens the hood of a vehicle for a search by soldiers of the 58th Combat Engineer Company's Assault and Obstacles Platoon. Spc. Ebnor, far left, and Sgt. 1st Class Michael Wilkinson look at the engine. Above: Ebnor watches as the unit's interpreter, who wears a mask, checks an Iraqi man's registration against his license plate.

## Platoon disrupts Iraqi insurgents one car at a time

BY JASON CHUDY

Stars and Stripes

BAGHDAD — Soldiers from the 58th Combat Engineer Company are fighting a war against insurgents one car at a time.

The Fort Irwin, Calif.-based unit's Assault and Obstacles Platoon spent part of Saturday searching cars, buses and trucks at a traffic checkpoint in the city's Mutanabi neighborhood.

After the platoon set up near a gas station, soldiers began checking IDs of passing motorists and giving cars a quick once-over, looking for anything out of place.

"We'll always do a cursory search on everything," said company commander Maj. Chris Emond. "[Saturday] we spent a lot more time checking the bolo list."

Bolo stands for "be on the lookout" and the list describes wanted cars or people. Sometimes the list is specific, other times it's not.

"One time they said we're looking for a green Opel," said Humvee gunner Pfc. John Abreu. "Within 10 minutes we saw like 30 of them. They'll say 'black BMW' and we'll see a thousand of them."

Baghdad traffic, which is normally clogged during the day, grinds to a halt on the soldiers' side of the street as they check cars against their list.

Out of the few hundred vehicles passing through, the soldiers thoroughly searched about two dozen of them.

Pfc. Anthony Sanchez said that during one checkpoint a few months back they searched about 650 cars in a three-hour period.

Saturday's cars ranged from fairly new BMWs to indistinguishable models with missing parts and pieces held in place with rope or wire.

Emond said that they'll often search cars that are "too brand new" or really old and beat up. The soldiers pay close attention to the vehicle occupants' demeanor.

"If they're looking forward, not looking at you, or shaking when you ask them for ID, these are the guys you worry about," Sanchez said.

One vehicle they searched had three bloody handprints on it and the driver didn't have an ID card. The day before two people in the nearby gas line were killed in a fight, so the soldiers worried that the driver may have been involved.

"[The driver] said it was traditional to sacrifice a chicken and put the blood on a new car to thank God for the gift," Emond said.

He confirmed the tradition with the unit's translator.

They continued to ask the man various questions on details of the sacrifice, whether he owned any weapons, and what happened to his ID.

The man told them that he had to turn over the ID while the car registration paperwork was being done.

They also tested the man for explosives residue and searched his car. He hadn't been handling explosives or fired a weapon and the search turned up nothing suspicious.

During the entire time, Emond said, the man remained patient and friendly to the soldiers. "Throughout all the questions he wasn't especially nervous or especially cocky," Emond said. "He did not appear to look like a bad guy."

The man and his bloodied car were eventually allowed to pass.

People's attitudes toward the soldiers, he said, can also draw attention to them. "A lot of them that are comfortable with us being in the area tend to welcome it if they're innocent," Emond said. "They'll happily show us their car."

"It's 50-50 on whether the people don't like you or do," said Abreu. "Mainly females and kids like you. Men are the stubborn ones. They're aggressive and cause the problems."

Saturday's search, as with most of their searches, didn't turn up anything exciting, other than a man with a pistol. The man turned out to be a translator for another Army unit and was allowed to pass after checks of his IDs and weapons permit.

The soldiers do come across weapons, but most of the owners are authorized to carry them.

"Occasionally there are some," Emond said. "Most of the ones we see are individuals with the Iraqi Police or Iraqi National Guard with valid weapons permits."

Some, however, show up with weapons but no weapons permit. If they can establish that the person is entitled to a weapon, such as from a phone call to their unit, they're allowed to pass.

If they can't prove it, the soldiers keep the weapon.

Finding weapons isn't a big surprise, but when another of the company's platoons stopped a truck a few months back it did cause a commotion.

The truck was full of ammunition; it was being used as a mobile weapons cache, said Emond.

Even though the soldiers usually don't regularly make big hauls, or for that matter any at all, Emond believes the TCPs help.

Because the insurgents don't know where or when the next checkpoint is going to be set up, their attack plans may be disrupted.

The soldiers don't know how to measure the "disruption effect" of their checkpoints, Emond said. However, he added: "We're pretty confident that ... happens."

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Last May, Capt. Alex Garza of Kansas City, Mo., left, and Col. Kirk Eggleston of Janesville, Iowa, second from right, both Army doctors, met with Dr. Haider Jaffar to discuss ways to get the teaching college at Saddam General Hospital running in Tikrit, Iraq.

## Americans help rebuild Iraq's medical libraries

BY ALICIA CHANG  
The Associated Press

Dr. Alex Garza, an Army Reserve captain and emergency room doctor from Missouri, saw firsthand how hopelessly outdated Iraq's medical libraries were.

Back in the United States, Dr. David Gifford, a retired Army colonel in Texas, learned of the problem from a physician friend stationed in Iraq.

Unbeknownst to each other, the two men thought of a plan to modernize Iraq's health care system by getting up-to-date medical textbooks and journals into the hands of Iraqi professors and students.

Garza and Gifford eventually joined forces, and soon medical schools, publishing houses and people around the globe donated boxloads of medical literature to the war-scarred country. More than 100,000 items have been collected so far.

"This is really a big change," said Dr. Thamer Al Hifi, a tuberculosis specialist and professor at the University of Tikrit College of Medicine. "Everyone here — doctors and students — feel like they are born again."

Before the two Americans stepped in, most of Iraq's medical books were from at least two decades old and several editions out of date. The more recent ones were photocopies of medical textbooks housed at the Ministry of Health in Baghdad. Topics such as AIDS and the latest surgical techniques were wholly absent from the editions Iraqi medical students were using, Garza said.

Garza realized this shortly after the fall of Baghdad in March 2003, when he was dispatched to Tikrit, the hometown of Saddam Hussein. Head of the public health team for the 418th Civil Affairs Battalion, Garza was in charge of rebuilding medical schools, hospitals and clinics in the region.

A tour of the University of Tikrit College of Medicine campus revealed the library was woefully

lacking when the times. The dean explained that it was too costly to buy new reading material.

"It was shocking to me as a medical professional how anyone can practice modern medicine with such limited resources," Garza recalled.

Garza's idea of a book drive did not become reality until he learned that Gifford, at the Darnley Army Community Hospital at Fort Hood, Texas, had been thinking about the same thing.

Gifford made cold calls to dozens of publishing companies, at first to no avail. Then he got in touch with Susan Yox, a nurse from Orchard Park, N.Y., who ran an article by Garza about the Iraq effort, the project took off.

Publishers that had planned to destroy their old editions donated them instead. Medical schools started campus book drives, collecting books that students would have otherwise resold.

WebMd Corp. donated 3,000 copies of its 2003 surgery and internal medicine textbooks, valued at about \$500,000. Among the largest medical school donors were the University of Tennessee and the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City, which sent more than 2,000 textbooks and journals each.

To minimize shipping costs, Gifford arranged for some packages to be delivered to stateside military posts, where they were transferred to military cargo planes headed for Baghdad.

Language was not a barrier in Iraq since lessons in medical school were taught in English, a legacy of the country's occupation by the British during World War I.

The first wave of books went to the University of Tikrit College of Medicine earlier this year. Garza earmarked other donations for the Ad Diyala College of Medicine, Tikrit Teaching Hospital, Samarra General Hospital and dozens of clinics.

## British soldier court-martialed for alleged Iraq prisoner abuse

BY TONY CZUZKA  
The Associated Press

BERGEN, Germany — A British soldier accused of abusing Iraqis in his custody was brought before a court-martial at a base in Germany on Monday, the first such case against a British serviceman to come to trial.

Fusilier Gary Bartlam, 20, is among four soldiers from the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers who were charged after photos surfaced that allegedly showed mistreatment of Iraqis.

Britain's attorney general,

Lord Goldsmith, was quoted by the Guardian newspaper as saying that some of the abuse "apparently involves making the victims engage in sexual activity between themselves."

A British tabloid, The Sun, printed pictures that showed an Iraqi detainee bundled up in netting and suspended from a fork-lift truck.

Bartlam, whose rank is the equivalent of private, was arrested and questioned by military police in May after allegedly taking film to be developed at a shop in England. The photo lab reportedly alerted police to the content.

Bartlam's military trial by jury at a British barracks in Bergen, north of Hannover, was expected to last one or two days.

Proceedings against the three other defendants — Lance Pfc. Darren Larkin, Pfc. Daniel Kenyon and Lance Pfc. Mark Cooley — are to start at Osnabrück later this week.

The British military has released few details on the cases and the exact charges against the four soldiers have not been announced.

British troops in Iraq are stationed mostly around Basra in the south.

## Investigators crack down on scams with GI insurance

BY LEO SHANE III  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Georgia's insurance commissioner expects more investigations and sanctions against insurance companies with a military focus in the wake of a Texas firm's admission of improper insurance sales to troops in basic training.

Last week American Amicable Life Insurance announced it would pay about \$1.3 million to more than 900 Georgia servicemembers sold policies while in training, which is prohibited under Department of Defense policies and Georgia insurance sales regulations.

Company officials blamed a third-party seller — an independent firm selling products from more than one insurance company — for what they called a one-time mistake put commissioner John W. Oxendine said he thinks the incident points to a larger problem of the industry exploiting military personnel.

"These refunds will in no way be the last step," he said. "We have an active investigation against six other insurance companies. We believe this does happen all the time."

One of those other investigations is focused on First Command, who last month agreed to pay an \$8 million fine and refund about \$4 million to customers given false information and promises about systematic investment plans.

Since the investigations began, several of the companies in question have been barred from business at Fort Benning in Georgia. The Department of Defense has asked all bases to provide details of their solicitation investigations since 2000 as part of a comprehensive review of the industry.

American-Amicable offered life insurance refunds in early 2004 after a similar illegal sales charge at Camp Pendleton, Calif. The company was fined by the U.S. Army based in Europe from 1998 to 2000 for similar solicitation violations.

Spokesman Mark Palmer said that after the latest charges, American-Amicable hired Carl Ross, the retired civilian training staff for training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, to help retrain training and marketing policies, to ensure similar problems don't appear in the future.

He added that American-Amicable has ended its contracts with all of the third-party sellers involved in the improper sales.

The third-party seller involved in the Fort Benning case was contacted for comment, but did not respond.

Oxendine said he thinks Georgia's investigations are just the start of what he hopes will be a nationwide crackdown on unscrupulous insurance and investment firms.

"Ripping off soldiers has been happening since the Middle Ages, but it appears at times of war it gets more active," he said. "But we haven't really heard about it until recently."

"The military has taken care of everything (these troops) need, and for them to go outside that structure to complain is against what they've been taught."

Troops who bought the American-Amicable policies while training in Georgia will have 180 days to request a refund, but those stationed outside the United States won't have that time to start until they return. All should be receiving notification by mail in the coming weeks.

For more information, call (800) 656-2298.

E-mail Leo Shane at: shaneiii@stripes.osd.mil

## Lawyer: Alleged drowned Iraqi never exhumed

BY ANGELA K. BROWN  
The Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas — Despite a judge's order, the Army has spent no steps toward exhuming the body of an Iraqi who allegedly drowned after being forced into the Tigris River by armed U.S. troops, a soldier's attorney said.

Frank Spinner said Sunday that raises questions about how the government will proceed in its case against his client, Army 1st Lt. Jack Saville. He faces trial in March on charges of involuntary manslaughter, aggravated assault, obstruction of justice, conspiracy and making a false statement.

Saville's co-defendant, Sgt. 1st

Class Tracy Perkins, faced the same charges and was convicted Friday of counts of aggravated assault, obstruction of justice and assault consummated by battery.

He was acquitted of manslaughter and making a false statement, and the conspiracy charge against him had been dismissed earlier in his military trial at Fort Hood.

Perkins' lawyers contend the victim, 19-year-old Zaidoun Hassan, survived being forced into the river. During Perkins' trial, an Army investigator testified that she never saw Zaidoun's body, allegedly found in the river 12 days after the incident, and did not have it exhumed because of security concerns.

A forensic expert testified that a corpse shown in a funeral videotaped by Zaidoun Hassan's family showed no signs of being in water for nearly two weeks.

Last month, a judge approved Saville's request to have the body exhumed to determine identification and cause of death. The judge also told the Army to post a forensic pathologist to discuss the procedure before they start.

Spinner said prosecutors have not appointed that expert.

"My impression is that they've done nothing to start the process to exhumate the body," Spinner, of Colorado Springs, Colo., told The Associated Press by telephone Sunday.

## IN THE STATES



Malibu Tow operator Chris Metzler takes cover from storm-driven surf Sunday in Malibu, Calif., while trying to hook a tow line to an SUV after two people were killed when the vehicle veered off the Pacific Coast Highway.

LOS ANGELES TIMES/AP

## More bad weather in California

BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD  
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — More drenching rain fell Monday on Southern California, where a toddler drowned after being wrenched from her mother's grasp by a raging flood, a homeless man was killed by a landslide and a man was carried two miles down a swollen river before being rescued.

The wet, windy weather isn't expected to let up until Wednesday, with as much as 6 inches of rain forecast in the region through Tuesday and an additional 2 feet of snow at elevations above 7,500 feet.

"We're going to be getting more of the same, harsh weather," said Curt Kaplan, a National Weather Service forecaster.

The storm system was blamed for at least one death during the weekend in Southern California.

A 2-year-old girl died after slipping from her mother's grasp as rescuers were lifting them from the family's vehicle, which got stuck in a flooded wash Sunday night, said Los Angeles County sheriff's Lt. Don Ford. The woman had driven around barriers, Ford said. The child's body was found Monday.

Hundreds of accidents were reported Sunday on roads clogged by water, mud flows and fallen trees, and rockslides on Monday closed the Pacific Coast Highway near Big Sur, the California Highway Patrol said. And some Metrolink and Amtrak train service was canceled because of

storm-related damage and mudslides.

In the Carrizos area, a man whose car skidded off Interstate 5 into a storm drain Sunday was swept two miles downstream, authorities said. Firefighters threw him a rope from a bridge and started pulling him up but he lost his grip and plunged back into the swift current. He was later pulled to safety on a bank. Two children in the car also were rescued.

The National Weather Service said downtown Los Angeles had received 5.16 inches of rain since Friday, including a record 2.58 inches on Sunday.

The same storm has been dumping heavy snow across the Sierra Nevada. Winter storm warnings were in effect with as much as 5 feet of new snow possible by Tuesday morning.

## Justices refuse to hear Fla. gay adoption case

BY GINA HOLLAND  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court rejected an appeal Monday by four men who challenged Florida's ban on adoption by gay couples, avoiding another contentious fight over gay rights.

Florida is the only state with a blanket law prohibiting homosexuals from adopting children, but the high court was told that other states could now feel free to copy the ban.

Opponents argued that the 1977 law, passed at the height of Anita Bryant's anti-homosexual campaign, was irrational because it excluded potential parents for thousands of abandoned children.

Supporters contend the state has the power to promote traditional father-mother families.

The high court's refusal to hear the case, made without comment, avoids a second showdown over gay rights there in two years.

Justices, in a historic civil rights ruling, barred states in 2003 from criminalizing gay sex. The court said then that states "cannot demean [gays'] existence

or control their destiny by making their private sexual conduct a crime."

The ruling set off a firestorm of criticism by conservative and religious groups. Three justices also complained that the court, generally known for its conservatism, had gone overboard in pandering to the "homosexual agenda."

The latest case involves gay foster parents in Florida who want to adopt children in their care.

The American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, representing the parents, argued that the state unconstitutionally singles out gays, based on discrimination.

"The plain and well-understood purpose of the ban was to tell gay people to go back into the closet," ACLU attorney Matthew Chole told justices in a filing.

Florida Gov. Jeb Bush has maintained that the children, often products of troubled and unstable backgrounds, should have a father and a mother.

"It is rational to believe that children need male and female influences to develop optimally, par-

### Court decisions

In developments Monday at the Supreme Court, the court:

- Declined to consider dismissing a lawsuit seeking to hold gun manufacturers responsible for the 1999 shooting of a letter carrier by a white supremacist.

- Refused to consider former Rep. James A. Traficant's challenge to his bribery and racketeering conviction.

- Let stand a lower court ruling that allowed Missouri's Ku Klux Klan chapter into the state highway litter cleanup program. The state had not wished to partner with the group because it discriminates based on race.

- Declined to consider the proper standards for allowing individuals to file class-action lawsuits against corporations, in a

ticularly in the areas of sexual and gender identity, and heterosexual role modeling," justices were told in a filing by Florida's attorney, Casey Walker.

A three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta ruled against the men a year ago. In July, the full court declined on a 6-6 vote to reconsider the case.

## 4 fired at CBS over discredited story on Bush militia record

BY DAVID BAUDER  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Four CBS News staffers were fired Monday following the release of an independent investigation that said a "myopic zeal" led to the airing of a discredited "60 Minutes Wednesday" report about President Bush's military service.

The panel's 224-page report detailed dozens of mistakes, including the reliance on documents that were allegedly forged to a circle-the-wagons mentality that compounded the damage.

CBS fired Mary Mapes, producer of the Sept. 8 report; Josh Howard, executive producer of "60 Minutes Wednesday"; and his top deputy Mary Murphy; but spared vice president Betty West.

Dan Rather, who narrated the report, was faulted for "errors of credulity and overenthusiasm," but was not disciplined by CBS executive Leslie Moonves. Rather announced in November that he was stepping down as anchorman of the "CBS Evening News," but insisted the timing had nothing to do with the investigation.

CBS News President Andrew Heyward kept his job. The panel said Heyward had explicitly urged caution before the report aired.

Moonves had appointed former Republican Attorney General

Dick Thornburgh and Louis Baccant, retired president and chief executive officer of The Associated Press, to investigate what went wrong and they delivered their report last week.

"These problems were caused primarily by a myopic zeal to be the first news organization to broadcast what was believed to be a new story about President Bush's Texas Air National Guard service, and the rigid and blind defense of the segment after it aired despite numerous indications of its shortcomings," the panelists concluded.

The report cited documents purported to be from one of Bush's commanders in the Texas Air National Guard. The documents said the commander, the late Lt. Col. Jerry Kilian, ordered Bush to take a medical exam and the future president did not. Kilian also reportedly felt pressured to sugarcoat an evaluation of then 1st Lt. Bush.

Questions were quickly raised about the memo, with some documents saying it appeared were written on a computer not invented at the time they were supposedly written.

Although the panel said it couldn't prove conclusively the documents were forged, it said CBS News failed to authenticate them and falsely claimed an expert had done so when all he had done was authenticate one signature.

## Chlorine being removed from damaged train

The Associated Press

GRANTVILLE, S.C. — Crews worked Monday to neutralize and remove chlorine gas still leaking from a railcar damaged in a train wreck that killed nine people last week and injured hundreds more.

A day after patching a breach in the car, crews mixed the toxic gas with sodium hydroxide to turn it into liquid bleach, making it safer to pump it out of the railcar, said Thom Berry, state Department of Health and Environmental Control spokesman.

The gas killed nine people, including six workers at a nearby textile plant, and sickened more than 250 others. The Norfolk Southern train slammed into parked railcars early Thursday.

Thousands of nearby residents were expected to remain evacuated until Wednesday at the earliest. Two other cars containing chlorine gas remain at the crash site but are not leaking, officials said.

They will be emptied before being moved, Berry said.

case accusing six health maintenance organizations of fraud.

- Declined to consider whether Pennsylvania officials were wrong to keep Ralph Nader off the presidential ballot last November.

- Let stand a lower ruling that Major League Baseball did not have to retire 10 umpires who were still out of work following a 1999 mass resignation.

- Said it would not speed up a decision on whether to consider a challenge to President Bush's authority to name William Pryor to a federal appeals court while the Senate was on a holiday break.

- Rejected an appeal from a Norfolk, Va., gun dealer, Bob's Gun & Tackle Shop, over a federal agency's authority to demand information about transactions involving used firearms.

— The Associated Press

# Cheney's focus likely to change in 2nd term

BY EILEEN PUTMAN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Like the man behind the curtain working the levers in "The Wizard of Oz," Dick Cheney has been called the real power in President Bush's administration, perhaps the strongest vice president in U.S. history.

But as Bush enters his second term, Cheney's role is in flux.

His chief task in Bush's first administration — mentoring a novice president with little foreign policy or legislative experience — has been accomplished. He remains dogged by heart disease and an FBI probe of a subsidiary of Halliburton, the company he once ran.

Indeed, some wonder whether Cheney, with no ambition to succeed his boss in the White House, will serve out his second term. And while he has redefined a job that traditionally involved attending ceremonial and campaign events or undertaking thankless policy assignments, there is speculation Cheney's influence is waning.

"He was so influential that it was almost insulting to call him vice president," said Paul Light, professor of public service at New York University. "He was a mentor, chair of the Cabinet, legitimizer, Rasputin — you name it — all rolled into one."

Those roles have been chipped away over time.

Still, Cheney is likely to remain the administration point man on several fronts.



Vice President Dick Cheney speaks Sept. 17 during a Bush-Cheney '04 Town Hall Meeting in Oregon City, Ore. Some wonder whether Cheney will serve out his second term.

As Bush turns in his second term to forging his presidency's legacy, he is expected to use Cheney to push his domestic agenda — overhauling Social Security and the tax code — in Congress, where Cheney served for 10 years as a Wyoming congressman and where he still enjoys strong influence among House conservatives.

With Republicans seeking to keep the White House in 2008, Cheney will likely be involved behind the scenes in promoting a candidate Bush can endorse as successor.

"One of the great gifts Cheney bestows

upon Bush is he doesn't have any aspirations of being president," said Mike Franc, vice president for government relations at the conservative Heritage Foundation. With Al Gore, President Clinton's vice president, Franc said, "There was always a background tension because Gore himself harbored the presidential aspiration."

Franc conceded that early in his first term Bush, 58, "was deferring quite a bit" to Cheney, 63. But he said the two men have "a great partnership" and trust that he will only be "deeper and fuller" in Bush's

second term.

He dismissed speculation that FBI investigation into whether a Halliburton subsidiary improperly received lucrative federal government contracts for work in Iraq without competitive bidding was a serious distraction that could put pressure on Cheney to step down or render him ineffective.

Similarly, it's not clear that Cheney's health problems could shorten his time in office. In 2001, he had an implantable defibrillator inserted in his chest. The device is designed to activate automatically if needed to regulate his heartbeat. Cheney also takes medication to lower his cholesterol and has said he is exercising and eating more healthily.

John Nichols, author of the book, "Dick: The Man Who Is President," said in an interview that Cheney may well "take a lesser role in the spotlight" as the political ambitions of Republican presidential aspirants emerge.

"Cheney is somewhat disempowered because there will be people moving to make a name within the administration and in the periphery of it," Nichols said. "He may even step back and allow someone else to have a definitional role."

But, he added, "My prediction is that Dick Cheney will remain in the second term the most powerful vice president in American history by quietly peopling" the administration "with folks he's familiar with and who are ideological and personal allies."

## Kin of woman charged in stealing newborn say they warned of lies

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Missouri — Members of Lisa Montgomery's family say they tried to warn people that the woman was making up stories about being pregnant, and their concerns increased after they learned in November that she had purchased a kit for home births.

Montgomery, 36, of Melvern, Kansas, is accused of strangling a pregnant Missouri woman Dec. 16 and cutting her 8-month-old fetus from her body. The baby was found the next day in Melvern after Montgomery and her husband spent the morning shopping for the newborn off around town as their own.

Montgomery's mother, Judy Shaughnessy, told The Kansas City Star she knew something was wrong when she began receiving congratulations about being a grandmother again.

"I just said, 'Yeah, right, she either stole it or bought it,'" Shaughnessy told the newspaper for a story in Sunday's editions.

Montgomery had been incapable of having children since undergoing tubal ligation surgery in 1990, her family said. But Shaughnessy said her daughter was able to fool her husband, his parents and their community.

"I tried to tell them and tell them, but nobody listened," Shaughnessy said.

Montgomery's two half sisters, Patty Hedberg and Jerri Kleiner, said they also tried to warn Montgomery's in-laws that she had faked at least five pregnancies.

The sisters and their mother said they found out in November that Montgomery had purchased the kind of birth kit used by midwives to deliver babies. Kleiner said she started to worry that her sister would do something drastic to get a baby.

Starting in the late 1980s, Montgomery had four children in a little more than three years. She had her tubes tied after the fourth was born in 1990, but in 1994 she told her first husband, Carl

Boman, that she was pregnant with twins.

Her half sisters said that after she met her second husband, Kevin Montgomery, in 1999, she told him twice that she was pregnant. The first time, he gave her money for an abortion, they said.

During a 2003 custody battle for her brother's newborn child after he was put in jail on drug charges, Montgomery testified at hearings that she was pregnant, then, too. She later testified that she miscarried and donated the fetus to science, relatives said.

Then Montgomery announced last summer that she was again pregnant.

"All her lies were catching up with her," Shaughnessy said.

"I think the desperation got to her."

Shaughnessy said that last year she had looked into having her daughter committed to a psychiatric institution but was told that probably wouldn't happen unless Montgomery harmed herself or someone else.

## Battered pregnant woman's request to divorce denied

BY NICHOLAS GERANIOS

The Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. — When Shawna Hughes discovered she was pregnant, her husband was in jail for beating her. She sought a divorce before his release, and he did not object — but a judge did.

Superior Court Judge Paul Bastine revoked Hughes' divorce until after she gives birth because her husband was not told she was going to have a child and paternity had not been established.

"It is the policy of the state that you cannot dissolve a marriage when one of the parties is pregnant," he said during oral arguments on the case last month.

Hughes, a 27-year-old medical assistant, is 7 months pregnant and says her estranged husband, Carlos Hughes, is not the father.

She has appealed the decision.

"I'm devastated," she said, calling her husband "very, very violent."

Carlos Hughes is in jail in Montana awaiting trial on federal drug charges and Bastine noted that Shawna Hughes has a restraining order that prevents her husband from contacting her, even if they remain married. But women's advocates worry the ruling sets an unsettling precedent.

"This is a woman in domestic violence asking to get out of the relationship," said Hughes' attorney, Terri Sloyer. "We're telling abusers that if you can get her pregnant you can keep her married to you."

Lawyers representing Hughes' appeal said Bastine is misinterpreting a state law intended to standardize paternity and protect the rights of children and the state.

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# Old war, new technology

## Civil War maps, charts find homes on the Web

BY CARL HARTMAN  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Civil War buffs are getting access to a treasure trove of information — thousands of original maps and diagrams of battles and campaigns between 1861 and 1865, all posted on the Internet.

The Library of Congress is posting 2,240 maps and charts and 76 atlases and sketchbooks, while The Virginia Historical Society and the Library of Virginia are adding about 600 items. Much of the collection is online now; the rest will be by the spring.

The items depict troop positions and movements, as well as fortifications. There also are reconnaissance maps, sketches and coastal charts and theater-of-war maps.

One plan of the Mississippi port of Vicksburg was done in 1863, the year Union Gen. Ulysses S. Grant forced its surrender on July 4 in one of the war's most decisive operations. It gave the Union control of the river and cut the Confederacy in two.

It also won the attention of President Lincoln to his most successful commander. Lincoln wrote Grant a letter of congratulation and promoted him to major general.

The Vicksburg map includes fortifications, railways, levees, drainage, vegetation and even the names of a few residents.

The same day Vicksburg fell, more than 900 miles away Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee began retreating to Virginia from Gettysburg, Pa., following his defeat there.

The National Archives and Records Administration recently drew attention to a map of the Gettysburg campaign in its own collection. It records positions of troops on July 2, 1863, when the South came close to winning the battle.

The agency has been looking at the back of some of its documents since it worked with Walt Disney



This map showing the movement of troops, roads, railroads and houses during the three days of the Battle of Gettysburg was published by artist Theodore Dittler shortly after the 1863 battle.

Pictures on the current film "National Treasure," a fictional story about a map to hidden treasure on the back of the original Declaration of Independence.

The Gettysburg map, which is not online, went with Lee's report on the battle to Confederate President Jefferson Davis. On the back of Lee's 14-page report was written:

"Read with satisfaction and returned to War Dept. Jeff. Davis Aug. 6, 1863." Davis may have been relieved by the failure of Union Gen. George G. Meade to pursue and destroy Lee's retreating forces.

Gettysburg was a decisive defeat for the Confederates after a series of victories. Lee surrendered to Grant nearly two years later, after terrible losses on both sides.

The contribution of the Virginia Historical Society includes maps of Virginia locations, created by Confederate officers. They detail roads, bridges, waterways and buildings, including farms and plantations with the owners' names.

The Virginia society also presents the viewpoint of the Union side in a diary and scrapbook that belonged to Robert K. Sneden, an Army mapmaker. It includes battle plans and fortifications. The society acquired it recently after it had been locked in a bank vault for decades.

The Library of Virginia has maps that went with reports to the governor and field maps of the southwestern part of the state, found in books that belonged to Confederate Gen. William W. Loring.

Items already posted can be seen at: [http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/collections/civil\\_war\\_maps/](http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/collections/civil_war_maps/)

The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — A panel of linguists has deemed "red state, blue state, purple state" the phrase that most colored the nation's lexicon in 2004.

Attendees at the annual convention of the Linguistic Society of America on Friday chose the word or phrase that dominated national discourse over the course of the last year.

"It was the best candidate for word of the year," said Dennis Preston, a professor of linguistics at Michigan State University.

"It engaged the American public for the entire year. Nothing showed the blood-thirsty population-engaging election as this."

The phrase "red state, blue state, purple state" represents the American political map. The term defines red as favoring Republicans, blue as favoring Democrats and purple showing swing or undecided states.

Other nominees for word of the year were: flip-flop, a politician who changes political stances; meet-up, a local special interest meeting organized through a national Web site; mash-up, a blend of two songs or albums into a single cohesive musical work; and wardrobe malfunction, an un-

anticipated exposure of bodily parts. The term was coined when viewers saw singer Janet Jackson's bra peeking during the Super Bowl halftime show.

This was the 15th year of the contest, sponsored by the American Dialect Society.

An annual win to the linguists' yang, the banned words list from Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., contained three of the same phrases: red state-blue state, flip-flop and wardrobe malfunction. The dialect society is less judgmental and more descriptive in its approach.

For the contest was considered very serious by the thousand or so conference attendees, there was plenty of joking to be found.

Preston made a pitch for the term "punch muller," which describes a lawn that is neatly mowed in the front but unmowed in the back, as a candidate for the most French phrase.

"Hillbilly armor," describing U.S. troops scavenging for materials to protect their vehicles, and

nerdvana, a term for collaborative geekiness, also were nominated in that category, but lost to pajamahaden: bloggers who challenge and fact-check traditional media.

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# A decade after wolves' release, controversy still burns in Idaho

BY BECKY BOHRER  
The Associated Press

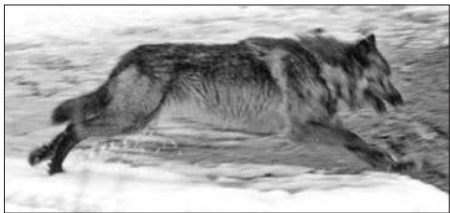
BILLINGS, Mont. — A decade ago, the first gray wolves bolted out of crates and into the wilds of Idaho. The event was cheered by environmentalists but decried by ranchers and others who had hoped it would never happen.

Ten years later, passions still run deep, fueled by the wolves' incredible recovery in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming.

Ranchers worry about livestock being attacked. Hunting organizers worry the wolves are reducing elk herds and threatening their livelihood.

Conservationists acknowledge problems but say wolves haven't been the scourge some predicted. They say that in the area around Yellowstone National Park the reintroduction of wolves has helped the ecology and increased tourism has boosted the economies of nearby communities.

Wolves in the region gained protection under the Endangered Species Act in 1974, after being essentially wiped out in Idaho, Wyoming and Montana earlier in the century. But in the 1980s, a small number migrated naturally into Glacier National Park from Canada.



A just-released gray wolf leaps into the wilds of Central Idaho on Jan. 14, 1995.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in a 1987 plan, proposed reintroducing an "experimental" population in Yellowstone. After years of debate, the government decided in the early 1990s to reintroduce wolves to the park and parts of central Idaho.

Ranchers were firmly opposed, worried how the predators would affect their livelihoods.

The first gray wolves were released in Idaho on Jan. 14, 1995. The next year, 37 more wolves were reintroduced. Federal wildlife officials had expected to reintroduce animals for five years but stopped after two because the population was growing on its own.

Coexistence between ranchers and wolves has sometimes been uneasy. The Defenders of Wildlife pays compensation

for confirmed losses and offers assistance with nonlethal measures to help keep wolves from livestock. But farm leaders say it's often difficult to prove losses and that little short of a shotgun will keep wolves from returning.

According to the government, 278 cattle and nearly 800 sheep were confirmed killed by wolves in the three states from 1995 to 2003. Meanwhile, 201 "problem" wolves also were killed, mostly by government agents.

An estimated 825 or more wolves now live in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. Those on all sides of the debate say emotions are still strong.

Maurry Jones, an outfitter in western Wyoming, said he wishes reintroduction had never happened, and insists it will be the "greatest wildlife disaster ever seen."

But Doug Smith, the Yellowstone wolf project leader, said the reintroduction has been a scientist's dream, providing an opportunity to compare an ecosystem with and without a key predator.

"It's one of the major conservation efforts of the 20th century, and to be here and watch the population grow and study it — it's one of the most exciting things that's happened to me," he said.

# Jon Stewart book banned by library

The Associated Press

GULFPORT, Miss. — Library officials in two southern Mississippi counties have banned Jon Stewart's best-selling "America (The Book)" over the satirical textbook's nude depictions of the nine U.S. Supreme Court justices. "I've been a librarian for 40 years and this is the only book I've objected to so strongly that I wouldn't allow it to circulate," said Robert Willits, director of the Jackson-George Regional Library System of eight libraries in Jackson and George counties.

"We're not an adult bookstore. Our entire collection is open to the entire public," Willits said. "If they had published the book without that one picture, that one page, we'd have the book."

Wal-Mart has declined to stock the book because of the page, which features the faces of the nine Supreme Court justices superimposed over naked bodies. The facing page has cutouts of the justices' robes, complete with a caption asking readers to "restore their dignity by matching each justice with his or her respective robe."

The book by Stewart and the writers of "The Daily Show," the Comedy Central cable television network's fake-news program he hosts, was released in September. It has spent 15 weeks on The New York Times best seller list for hardcover nonfiction, and was named Book of the Year by Publishers Weekly, the industry trade magazine.

## Julia Roberts buys Rumsfeld land

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — With newly born twins, it looks like Julia Roberts needs some extra space.

The actress has bought 32 acres of Taos, N.M., real estate from Secretary of Defense

Donald Rumsfeld, People magazine reports.

According to the magazine, since taking up part-time residence in New Mexico in 1995, Roberts has bought other pieces of property adjacent to hers. The plot purchased from Rumsfeld in an area of Taos known as Des Montes neighbors the 80 acres Roberts already owns.

Messages left at the Taos Country Clerk's home and with Julia Roberts' publicist by The Associated Press seeking confirmation were not immediately returned. Rumsfeld, though, still owns other real estate holdings in Taos, including several houses.

Roberts, 37, and her husband Danny Moore, 35, just weeks ago became parents of twins, Hazel Patricia and Phineas Walter Moder. The couple were married at her Taos home in 2002.



Marcia Cross, center, and cast members of "Desperate Housewives," celebrate winning the favorite new TV drama category at the 31st Annual People's Choice Awards on Sunday in Pasadena, Calif.

## The people choose controversy

### 'The Passion of the Christ' and 'Fahrenheit 9/11' recognized at 31st Annual People's Choice Awards

The Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — Filmmakers Michael Moore and Mel Gibson were all smiles after they won top honors at the 31st Annual People's Choice Awards.

Both men had controversial films that fared well at the box office last year. Moore's film "Fahrenheit 9/11," which took a critical look at President Bush's actions after the 2001 terrorist attacks, won the favorite movie award, while Mel Gibson's explicit "The Passion of the Christ" won the favorite drama category.

Moore dedicated Sunday's win to the U.S. troops fighting overseas and said he was "amazed" that people voted his film their favorite.

"I love making movies and I'll take this as an invitation to make more 'Fahrenheit 9/11,'" Moore said.

Gibson echoed Moore's appreciation, saying the award "means a lot more to me this time than any before."

"I depended on you and you

were there," Gibson said. "If it wasn't for you guys, we would have been dead in the water."

The animated "Shrek 2" swept a number of categories, being named favorite comedy, favorite sequel and favorite animated movie.

The character of Donkey in "Shrek 2" voiced by Eddie Murphy, was named favorite animated movie star, while The Fairy Godmother, voiced by Jennifer Saunders, won in the favorite movie villain category.

Perennial favorites took many of the top awards, including many of this year's new categories. Julia Roberts and Johnny Depp won for favorite female and male movie star. Matt LeBlanc and Marg Helgenberger won for favorite male and female TV stars.

"Will & Grace," won for favorite TV comedy. "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" was named favorite TV drama.

After votes cast via the Internet during the first hour of the live broadcast were counted, "Joey" was named favorite TV comedy, while "Desperate Housewives" won for favorite TV dramas.

The People's Choice Awards,

hosted by Jason Alexander and Malcolm-Jamal Warner, were presented at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium and broadcast live on CBS.

The awards covered 38 film, television and music categories, including a number of new ones.

The nominations were determined by editors at Entertainment Weekly, the People's Choice production team and a panel of pop culture fans. Winners were determined by Internet voting.

Other winners include: Motion picture: "Fahrenheit 9/11" Drama motion picture: "The Passion of the Christ"

Comedy motion picture: "Shrek 2" Favorite sequel: "Shrek 2"

Animated movie star: Donkey in "Shrek 2" (voiced by Eddie Murphy)

Movie villain: The Fairy Godmother in "Shrek 2" (voiced by Jennifer Saunders)

Favorite on-screen chemistry: Drew Barrymore and Adam Sandler in "50 First Dates"

Female movie star: Julia Roberts Male movie star: Johnny Depp

Female action movie star: Angelina Jolie Male action movie star: Will Smith

Leading lady: Renee Zellweger Leading man: Brad Pitt

Funny female star: Ellen DeGeneres Funny male star: Jim Carrey

Television comedy series: "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation"

Female television star: Marg Helgenberger Male television star: Matt LeBlanc

Late night talk show host: David Letterman Daytime talk show host: Ellen DeGeneres

Competition: "American Idol" 24/7: "Newlyweds: Nick & Jessica"

Crest fans favorite smile: Julia Roberts Pianist favorite hair: Jennifer Garner Cover Girl fans favorite look: Kate Hudson

Female singer: Alicia Keys Male singer: "The First Cut is the Deepest" by The Roots Country group: Brooks & Dunn Country female singer: Faith Hill Country male singer: Tim McGraw

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## OPINION

## Chisholm raised her hand and raised the bar

A lot of us who remember her owe a debt to the late Shirley Chisholm. She taught us how to live by principles, even when our friends think we're a pain in the neck.

As warm praise deservedly accompanies the condolences for Mrs. Chisholm, who died Jan. 1 in Florida at age 80, I remember a time when the first black woman to be elected to Congress and the first to wage a

Clarence Page



major presidential campaign was not greeted as warmly as today's tributes sound.

Coming from some lips, the glowing praise for her "courage," her "individualism," her "tenacity," and her "relentless activism" sounds like a nice way of saying that she could be, well, a pain in the neck.

She prided herself on making herself a pain in the neck, even to her allies, if they tried to make her sit on the sidelines and wait her turn like a nice little lady, as many tried to do. People called her crazy, but only at first. She had a habit of getting what she wanted

or, at least, making the path easier for those who would come later. As Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., who knew her well, recalled, "For her to succeed, she had to be a little strange — and certainly extraordinary."

Indeed, Harlem's black political club bosses, such as Adam Clayton Powell, Basil Patterson, Percy Sutton and Rangel, didn't know what to make of this former day-care center director and educational consultant who got herself elected to the New York State Assembly from Brooklyn in 1964, without much help from Brooklyn's tough political machine.

She took her slogan, "Unbought and Unbossed," the title of her 1970 autobiography, so seriously that her fellow Democrats were not always sure of what to do with her. When she fooled detractors by getting elected to Congress four years later, the white Democratic bosses in Congress didn't seem to know what to do with her, either.

Incredibly, the woman from Brooklyn was assigned to the House Agriculture Committee. When she protested, House Speaker John McCormack told her to "be a good soldier," she recalled. Instead, she waged a parliamentary battle with the leadership and was switched to the Veterans Affairs Committee. Eventually she was reassigned to the Education and Labor Committee that she wanted.

Seizing the times in which she

lived, Chisholm built a national constituency of her own as an outspoken, iconic advocate for women, minorities, the poor and the anti-war movement.

She was elected to Congress in a time of urban riots, antiwar protests and President Lyndon B. Johnson's "war on poverty." It was the same year that Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy were assassinated. It was a year after Gary's Richard Hatchery in Indiana and Cleveland's Carl Stokes were elected the first black mayors of major cities. It was two years after the National Organization for Women was founded.

Buoyed by her national fame, Chisholm in 1972 launched the first large-scale presidential campaign by a black candidate in either major party. Once again displaying her eccentric independence, she did it without consulting her fellow members of the still-young Congressional Black Caucus.

By the time I would cover Chisholm as a young reporter in Chicago, she had simultaneously galvanized a national movement for herself but failed to win the endorsement of the 3,000 delegates to that year's historic National Black Political Convention in Gary. Many black leaders opposed her campaign as a solo fight," recalls Rep. Major Owens, who succeeded Chisholm in 1982 without her endorsement.

Indeed, while major black and feminist leaders showed solidarity



Shirley Chisholm takes her oath of office to become a Democratic member of the House of Representatives from New York on Jan. 3, 1969, in Washington. Administering the oath in this re-enactment of the swearing-in ceremony for Chisholm, the first black woman to serve in the House, is Speaker John McCormack, D-Mass.

AP

with her in public, I also heard muted complaints that Chisholm was not conferring, coordinating or building an organizational base from which others could operate after her largely symbolic campaign was done.

"The next time a woman runs," she wrote in her 1973 autobiography, "The Good Fight," "or a black, a Jew or anyone from a group that the country is 'not ready' to elect to its highest office, I believe he or she will be taken se-

riously from the start. The door is not open yet, but it is ajar."

Indeed, when other women like Geraldine Ferraro or Elizabeth Dole or blacks like Jesse Jackson or Colin Powell are discussed as presidential hopefuls, the name Shirley Chisholm inevitably appears, too. She didn't make it anywhere near the White House, but she helped to prepare the way for someone who will.

Clarence Page is a Chicago Tribune columnist.

## Hollywood likes a war story shot from one angle

BY MAX BOOT

During World War II, Frank Capra made a series of films called "Why We Fight" to rally Americans behind the war effort. Imagine a filmmaker doing that today. Actually, it's impossible to imagine.

Hollywood either prefers to stay away from the war on terrorism altogether (the film version of Tom Clancy's "The Sum of All Fears" changed the villains from Islamic extremists to neo-Nazis) or to use it, even in its pre-9/11 form, as a morality play to warn against lost civil liberties (see "The Siege," starring Denzel Washington).

The film community — whose sensibilities are routinely outraged by the treatment of snail darters or swamps (aka wetlands) — can't even work up much excitement about a Dutch filmmaker getting slaughtered, allegedly by a Muslim fanatic. Where were the rallies and memorials to protest Theo van Gogh's murder? The lack of outrage should be no surprise because the most successful movie made about the war on terrorism might as well have been titled "Why We Shouldn't Fight." I refer, of course, to "Fahrenheit 9/11," which smartly insinuated that the Bush administration posed a bigger threat to the world than Osama bin Laden or Saddam Hussein ever did.

Some conservatives have produced their own documentaries in reply to Michael Moore's grotesque mendacity, but the best answer comes from two honest, nonpartisan films that depict different aspects of the current struggle. If you want to know why we fight, check out the movie "Osama" and the documentary "Voices of Iraq."

"Osama" is the first film made in liberated Afghanistan, opens with a scene of Taliban enforcers breaking up a demonstration by burka-clad women upset about their inability

to work. The action then shifts to a hospital that is being closed, throwing a female doctor out of work.

Without a male wage earner in the family — both her husband and brother have been killed — starvation looms. So she cuts her 12-year-old daughter's hair and sends her out to work disguised as a boy named Osama. Director and writer Siddiq Barmak's understated style convincingly conveys the horror of daily life under the Taliban. Marina Golbahari, a street urchin whose father was arrested by the Taliban in real life, invests the title role with an authenticity that no mere actress could hope to match.

Ultimately, Osama's masquerade unravels, and she faces a gruesome punishment from an Islamic court. The ending, which I won't give away, is enough to make anyone shudder — and give thanks that U.S. troops have toppled the Taliban. Yet I don't recall a

single Hollywood feminist expressing gratitude to the U.S. military or its commander in chief for the liberation of Afghan women. No doubt Streisand, Sarandon & Co. were too busy inveigling John Ashcroft.

"Voices of Iraq" is one of the most gripping documentaries I have ever seen. Most of the footage was created by distributing 150 digital camcorders to let ordinary Iraqis record their own lives and thoughts from April to September 2004.

Early in the film, an American newspaper headline — "Fear of Militant Forces Ordinary Iraqis to Stay Home" — is ironically juxtaposed over a bustling street scene. As the movie moves along, we see proud university graduates in mortarboards, boys clowning around, and everyone riveted by the exploits of the Iraqi soccer team at the Olympics. In other words, we see that the terrorists are failing to disrupt Iraq's slow, painful progression toward normality.

While "Fahrenheit 9/11" presents antebellum Iraq as an idyllic place where children cartwheel with kites, "Voices of Iraq" shows the grim reality: Saddam's henchmen throwing bond prisoners off buildings, raping girls, massacring Kurds...

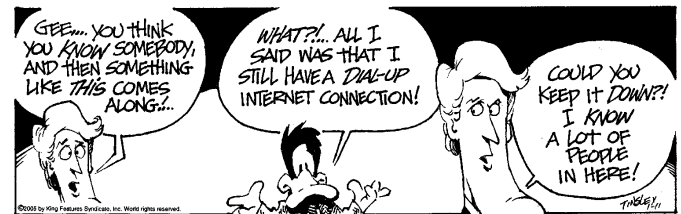
A few Iraqis say that, given current violence, they'd prefer to go back to the days of Saddamite stability, but most are entranced by their newfound freedom. "Now," one woman says, "there is opportunity for hope."

Producers Eric Mannes, Archie Drury and Martin Kunert deserve an Oscar for this eye-opening documentary. But they're not likely to get it, because that would require Hollywood to acknowledge there's more to the occupation of Iraq than the evil designs of Halliburton and the neoconservatives.

Max Boot is a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

## Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



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## IN THE WORLD

Mahmoud Abbas, also known as Abu Mazen, celebrates Sunday in the West Bank city of Ramallah, after exit polls showed him as winner in the Palestinian presidential elections. Abbas was elected by a wide margin Sunday, winning a decisive mandate to renew peace talks with Israel, rein in militants and try to end more than four years of Mideast bloodshed.



# Abbas claims decisive victory

The Associated Press

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Mahmoud Abbas was elected Palestinian Authority president by a landslide, results showed Monday, giving the pragmatist a mandate to resume peace talks with Israel — but also leaving him with the tough task of reining in powerful armed groups.

Abbas said Monday that the Palestinians are "ready for peace" with Israel.

"We extend our hands to our neighbors," he said. "We are ready for peace, peace based on justice. We hope that their response will be positive."

Israeli leaders welcomed Abbas' victory, but said they will watch closely how hard he tries to subdue militants. Abbas could easily lose his political capital over a major bombing or shooting attack, and while most militant groups signaled they are willing to give him a chance, not all were signed on to a truce with Israel.

Still, Abbas' victory in Sun-

day's vote held out the promise of a new era after four decades of chaotic and corruption-riddled rule by Yasser Arafat, who died Nov. 11. Abbas, who has spoken out against violence and has the support of the international community, promises to reform the government and the unwieldy security services.

Many Palestinians had high expectations of Abbas, widely known as Abu Mazen. Abbas won 62.3 percent of the vote, according to final results announced by Hanna Nasser, head of the Central Election Commission.

His main challenger, independent Mustafa Barghouti, won 19.8 percent, while the remaining five candidates scored in the lower single digits. About 3.8 percent of the ballots were deemed invalid, and 3.2 percent were blank, Nasser told a news conference.

Nasser declined to give a turn-out figure, citing confusion over the use of outdated residency records.

# Italian smokers adjust to ban

BY AIDAN LEWIS

The Associated Press

ROME — Italian office workers were taking their smoking breaks on the street Monday after a strict law that bans smoking in bars, restaurants, offices and other public spaces came into force.

Minutes after the law went into effect after midnight Sunday, a young man was fined for smoking in a bar in Naples, TV stations showed. The new law bans smoking in indoor spaces unless they have a separate smoking area with continuous floor-to-ceiling walls and a ventilation system, and is one of the most severe anti-smoking measures in Europe.

Among those fuming at the legislation are bar and restaurant owners who say the new rules will deter customers and that they don't have the time or money to create sealed-off smoking areas. They

have also protested a provision requiring them to report on customers who flout the law, saying it is not their job to act as "sheriffs."

Some smokers claim that the new rules curb individual rights.

In Milan, an organization called "Polite Smokers" threw a smoke-fueled party in Milan titled "the last cigarette" to protest the law as it came into force.

Others showed their support for the new law by burning piles of cigarettes in the street.

However, some have raised concerns about whether the law will be applied. In Rome, consumer group Conad announced a lunchtime blitz of restaurants to check that the new rules were being enforced. In a bar in central Rome, waitress Giorgia Pasquelli complained about having to step onto the street whenever she wanted a smoke.

"Now when I take a break I risk catching a cold every time," she said.

# Two injured when Navy helicopter crashes during tsunami aid mission

BY PETER DEJONG

The Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — A U.S. helicopter on a relief mission crashed in a rice paddy near the Banda Aceh airport Monday, injuring two servicemen. Schools reopened in Indonesia and Sri Lanka for the first time since the Dec. 26 tsunami, but with so many children among the more than 150,000 victims, the scene was far from normal.

Workers, meanwhile, struggled to recover 50,000 bodies the Indonesian government said were "scattered" throughout the region.

In Washington, President Bush said the United States "is committed today and we will be committed tomorrow" to victims of the Indian Ocean tsunami, but did not promise to increase U.S. aid to the region.

"We'll see," Bush said after receiving a report on the destruction from Secretary of State Colin Powell, just back from a tour of Indonesia, Thailand and Sri Lanka. "The dollars are demand-driven," the president said.

In Indonesia, the U.S. military said the Seahawk helicopter "executed a hard landing" and there was no evidence it was shot down 500 yards from the airport in Banda Aceh, capital of Indonesia's hard-hit Aceh province and the hub of international aid operations. Lt. Cmdr. John M. Daniels blamed the crash on a "possible mechanical failure."

He said one person fractured an ankle and the other dislocated his hip. Eight others suffered "no significant injuries," he said.

"There was no fireball but a little smoke. It landed on its side,"



Rescuers try to carry injured crewmembers from a crashed helicopter on Monday in Banda Aceh, capital of Indonesia's Aceh province.

said Capt. Joe Plenzler, adding that the helicopter's propeller was twisted from the impact. Fifteen Seahawk helicopters from the Lincoln group have been flying up to nine hours a day on aid missions. Normally they fly a maximum of three to four hours a day.

The crash came amid heightened security concerns in several towns hit areas with ethnic rebellions — particularly Aceh, where rebels have waged a separatist war in the province for nearly three decades. United Nations staff in Aceh are on high alert, and armed guards patrol their compounds amid fears of rebel attacks.

U.S. Marines came ashore at the devastated Indonesian fishing town of Meulaboh, riding a high-tech hovercraft that carried tons of food, water and a forklift. Only about 10 Marines landed, due to concerns by the Indonesian govern-

ment about security and that the troops would be too much for the local infrastructure to handle.

Nearly 2,000 Marines are now afloat off the Meulaboh coastline in two amphibious assault ships diverted from duty in Iraq. The ships carry two dozen helicopters, heavy equipment such as bulldozers and forklifts and tons of food.

About 100 Marines and Navy troops splashed ashore in southern Sri Lanka for the first time, bringing heavy machinery to clear devastated areas. A huge landing craft ferried the heavy equipment from the USS Duluth to the beachfront in Koggala town, 12 miles east of the southern city of Galle.

Aftershocks from the massive Indian Ocean earthquake that spawned the tsunami are known to congregate, the message said, warning of the continued potential for terrorist acts against Americans.

# U.S. Embassy in Kuwait warns of attacks

The Associated Press

KUWAIT CITY — The U.S. Embassy in Kuwait warned citizens Monday that an individual or group of people are driving around the small country with the intent of attacking Westerners.

"The Embassy is issuing this urgent message because it has received credible information that an individual or individuals moving about Kuwait in a black-colored small sedan intend to randomly at-

tack Westerners," said the warning message on the embassy's Web site.

It advised Americans who saw suspicious vehicles matching the description to quickly leave the area and contact the police with details.

"The Embassy reminds all U.S. citizens to exercise caution, maintain a low profile, and avoid areas where Westerners are known to congregate," the message said, warning of the continued potential for terrorist acts against Americans.

# World leaders welcome result

The Associated Press

LONDON — World leaders on Monday welcomed the election of Mahmoud Abbas as Palestinian Authority president, saying it showed Palestinians want to reform their government and find a negotiated solution with Israel.

German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder said his country and other European nations would do everything possible to help Abbas create an "independent, viable and democratic" Palestinian state.

Russian President Vladimir Putin also sent a message to the Palestinian leader, looking forward to cooperation on achieving "a just Palestinian-Israeli settlement on the basis of the 'road map' (peace plan) and resolutions of the UN Security Council."

President Bush said the United States will help Abbas and the Palestinian people address the challenges and create two states, Israel and Palestine, side-by-side in peace. He said other countries, including Israel, must do their part to create peace.



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## Traffic deaths decline

MADRID, Spain — Highway traffic accidents killed 139 people over the Christmas and New Year holiday period in Spain, a number considerably lower than last year, the national traffic department said Monday.

The fatalities occurred in 111 accidents between 3 p.m. on Dec. 23 and the end of Sunday, the department said. The figures represented a 28 percent drop on the death toll for the Christmas period in 2003, which saw 195 people die in highway accidents.

Traffic authorities have stepped up campaigns to discourage people from driving over the speed limit or under the influence of alcohol.

## China market replaced

BEIJING — China said Monday that rampant piracy spelled doom for Beijing's famous Silk Street, an outdoor strip destroyed last week, and only legitimate wares will be sold at the New Silk Street market.

The 20-year-old pedestrian shopping street — known for its spirited haggling and imitation brand-name goods — was among Beijing's most popular tourist destinations. It was bulldozed Thursday.

"The old market was ... a source of intellectual property rights abuses, which the central government has pledged to treat with greater efforts," the official Xinhua News Agency said, citing Yin Xiaobo, a senior official with the Chaoyang District government of Beijing.

## Fall kills hang glider

SYDNEY, Australia — A Norwegian hang glider plummeted 50 feet to his death at a competition in Australia, an event official said Monday.

The 38-year-old man, participating in the World Championships in Hay, about 500 miles southwest of Sydney, had trouble during take off on Sunday and fell sharply to the ground at high speed, organizers said.

He suffered massive head injuries and died at the scene, said Chris Fogg, a spokesman for the Hang Gliding Federation of Australia. He declined to disclose the man's identity.

In another possible tragedy linked to hang gliding, police said a Czech man who was to participate in an earlier contest had gone missing in the Australian Outback.

The missing Czech man, Lubos Gencur, 42, was to participate in another, earlier hang gliding competition.

Gencur flew into the Northern Territory city of Alice Springs on Dec. 18 but has not been seen since the day after he arrived, police spokeswoman Theresa Kuilboer said.

## 57 die in bus crash

BANGALORE, India — A bus driver apparently lost control of his vehicle and it plunged into a canal killing 57 people in southern India on Monday, police said.

Nine people were rescued near Nalagundi, a village about 300 miles northwest of Bangalore, the capital of Karnataka state, said S.K. Singh, superintendent of police.

Police were investigating the cause of the accident, but S.N. Borkar, the state police chief, said the driver apparently lost control of the vehicle.

## Rebel clashes kill 21

MANILA, Philippines — At least 21 combatants died Monday in clashes between renegade Muslim rebels and government troops in the southern Philippines, but an 18-month-old cease-fire remains intact, officials said.

Malaysia, Brunei and Libya have some 60 cease-fire monitors in the southern Philippines who, together with government and rebel Moro Islamic Liberation Front representatives, were trying to reach the scene of the fighting, guerrilla spokesman Eid Kabulu said.

The clashes erupted when 60 to 100 MILF guerrillas attacked an army detachment in Manasap, a town in Maguindanao province about 550 miles south of Manila, military spokesman Lt. Col. Buenaventura Pascual said.

From The Associated Press

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## Smoking debate

**CO** DENVER — Several Denver City Council members want to resurrect a debate on smoking in restaurants and bars.

The city now prohibits smoking in most workplaces and public places such as the zoo, Botanical Gardens, and outdoor theaters and stadiums.

Smoke-Free Denver, a community coalition, plans to lobby the City Council starting this month to ban smoking in restaurants and bars.

## Son's rowdy party

**PA** PITTSBURGH — Police haven't decided whether to file charges against the father of a 16-year-old boy who held a raucous, unsupervised New Year's party at which his friends fired guns in the street and more than three dozen teenagers and young adults were arrested.

All those arrested, whose ages range from 13 to 22, were charged with underage drinking or disorderly conduct.

Police say they are investigating whether the host's father, Howard C. Gunter, 38, of Pleasant Hills, Pa., knew his son was planning a party when he chose to spend the night at a nearby hotel.

"I'm not very pleased about the parent's actions or lack of action," said Pleasant Hills Police Chief Floyd Neveling. "You don't go off and leave your 16-year-old son on his own on New Year's Eve."

## Escapade hides in store

**NC** CHARLOTTE — A prison escapee was arrested after hiding out for months in vacant Circuit City store, eating baby food stolen from an adjacent Toys "R" Us and watching DVDs, police said.

Jeffrey Allen Manchester made his home in a 4-foot-by-10-foot closet decorated with posters and model toys, played hoops with a mini-basketball net and watched "Spider-Man 2." Authorities say he routed water from Toys "R" Us and even installed a smoke detector.

Manchester is now being held behind bars on six felony charges.

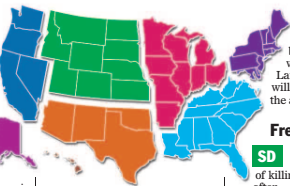
"I've never seen anybody so determined," said Officer Fred Allen, who spotted the hideaway in the store. "He wasn't going to make a stupid mistake. We had to find him."

Authorities say the 33-year-old Manchester sneaked out of the Brown Creek Correctional Institution on June 15 by clinging to the undercarriage of a truck. He was four years into a 45-year sentence on a robbery conviction from Gaston County.

## Naked Wal-Mart greeter

**IA** MUSCATINE — A Wal-Mart greeter was sacked for apparently showing too much of his friendly side to customers.

Dean L. Wooten, 65, was accused of greeting customers with a computer-generated photo of himself in which he appeared to be naked — except for a carefully placed Wal-Mart bag — and of telling customers that Wal-Mart was



## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

cutting costs and the sack was the company's new uniform.

Wooten said he did not see the harm in the photo, which he said was made by a friend who spliced a picture of Wooten's head onto a shot of another man's body.

"When I first seen it, I pretty near died laughing," he said.

## Postponing bison hunt

**MT** HELENA — Gov. Brian Schweitzer, fearing a "public relations nightmare" for Montana, said he wants to cancel a hunt for bison that wander outside Yellowstone National Park.

The newly inaugurated Democrat said he hopes to find a way to postpone the season for a year — it's set to start Jan. 15 — by either ordering the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks not to issue licenses, or by filling the Fish and Game Commission with new members who would reverse the decision to approve the hunt.

Schweitzer said he is not sure he can legally do the former, or has the time to do the latter.

The hunt was halted in 1991 after a barrage of bad publicity.

Some environmentalists have threatened more protests if a hunt takes place this year.

## Artists agree to leave

**NJ** JERSEY CITY — Artists fighting eviction from a 144-year-old former factory agreed to leave in a deal in which the landlord will forgive back rents that may total up to \$600,000.

About 60 artists who sued to re-



## Homemade fun

From left, Kirsten Prince, 8, Savannah Jones, 5, and Katie Jones, 7, sled down a hill on a piece of cardboard at Rushton Park in Birmingham, Ala.

main in their studios in the sprawling brick building owned by New Gold Equities will vacate by March 1. Landlord Lloyd Goldman will also pay \$35,000 for the artists' legal fees.

## Free deer meat

**SD** RAPID CITY — The city is nearing its goal of killing 200 deer this winter after receiving complaints that a growing deer herd is eating homeowners' vegetation and causing traffic accidents. The city pays sharpshooters to kill the deer and gives the meat away. A similar program from 1996 to 2002 killed 878 deer within city limits.

## Car seats big sellers

**NC** RALEIGH — A state law that requires children younger than 8 or less than 80 pounds to ride in car seats has caused a run on the equipment in stores around North Carolina. A dozen or more stores in the Charlotte region recently sold out of car seats. The law that took effect Jan. 1 aims to protect children who are too large for a car seat but too small for seat belts.

## Grossome charges

**PA** YEADON — A man was charged with raping and killing an aspiring teenage model, then cutting up her body, putting it in a steel drum and burning it with help from an acquaintance.

Delaware County District Attorney G. Michael Green said he will consider seeking the death penalty for Lamar Haymes, 29.

Haymes was charged with kidnapping, rape, first-degree murder, abuse of a corpse and other counts in the death of 15-year-old Deanna Wright McIntosh, who left home after an argument with her mother.

Authorities allege Haymes raped and killed Deanna at a house in Lansdowne just blocks from her family's Yeadon home.

## Police chief blamed

**FL** TAMPA — The motorist blamed for causing a four-car wreck on an interstate entrance ramp was no mere run-of-the-mill driver: He was the police chief.

"I feel terrible," said Chief Stephen Hogue. "It was completely my fault."

Hogue was on his way to work and looked over his shoulder while trying to merge onto an interstate in his city-issued, 1999 Ford Crown Victoria. While he was looking, the traffic ahead of him stopped.

Hogue rear-ended a 2003 Volkswagen, which rolled into a 2000 Acura, which struck a 2003 Ford, police said.

"I'm just grateful no one was hurt," said Hogue.

Officer Paul Hoffman gave Hogue a \$120 traffic citation for following too closely. "We just want to do what we're supposed to do," Hoffman said.

Hogue's car sustained about \$4,000 in damage to the front end. Besides the fine, he faces four points on his driver's license unless he attends traffic school.



## Lemonade for a cause

Sarah Eiland, 6, right, holds a sign promoting a lemonade sale while Sydney Eiland, 4, center, and Sarah Robertson, 6, prepare drinks in front of the Eiland home in Mobile, Ala. All proceeds from the lemonade sale were to be sent to the United Methodist Relief Organization.



## Come home soon, Mommy

Stephanie Bailey, 22, kisses her 16-month-old daughter, Elise Cummins, goodbye as she leaves Reno, Nev., with 80 other members of the Nevada Army Guard being deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.



## She's an artist at work

Rasha, an Asian elephant, paints an original work of art at the Fort Worth Zoo in Fort Worth, Texas.



A showy display

A peacock takes a stroll around Hart Park in Bakersfield, Calif.



Skiing with a kite

Saulius Mullois of Euclid, Ohio, adds a splash of summery color to a wintry day as he kite-skis across Edgewater Park in Cleveland.



Always a good day to fish

Keith Blake drops a fishing line into the frozen waters of Lake Champlain at the break water of Rouses Point, N.Y.

## Burned school reopens

**DC** WASHINGTON — A charter school reopened less than a month after it was ravaged by several fires.

Two fires were set Dec. 7 at the IDEA Public Charter High School in Northeast Washington. About a week later, the school was hit again. Parents and staff spent the last few weeks refurbishing the building. The fires didn't hurt anyone but caused \$1 million in damage.

## Football fans shocked

**UT** SALT LAKE CITY — Dozens of University of Utah fans attempting to storm the Fiesta Bowl field in a rite of football victory were each hit with a 50,000-volt electric jolt from police officers.

Among those shocked after the game in Tempe, Ariz., was a high-school student who says he and others just wanted to celebrate with their team and were not acting violently when they were zapped.

Arizona State University police spokesman Keith Jennings said the use of the weapons was in line with department policy. That permits the deployment of electronic incapacitators during physical altercations with police officers.

Jennings conceded, however, that only two people were arrested for scuffling with officers in the immediate aftermath of the game.

The officers used the weapons at Sun Devil Stadium in part "to protect the goalposts and the field" for an NFL game scheduled the following day, Jennings said.

"It was justifiable," he said. "They were also trying to protect people. If they go down to the field and knock over the goalpost, that sort of thing, we're liable if someone gets hurt."

## Therapist pleads guilty

**NY** PLATTSBURGH — A former therapist for children who suffered sexual abuse or had behavioral problems pleaded guilty to molesting 10 of them.

Douglas Kennedy, 41, of Peru in Clinton County, faces up to seven years in prison under the plea deal. The victims, both boys and girls, currently range in age from 8 to 15. District Attorney Richard Cantwell said.

Kennedy worked for Behavioral Health Services in Plattsburgh from 1995 until he resigned in June 2004 after two victims came forward.

The 11-count indictment included charges of criminal sexual acts, forcible touching and endangering the welfare of a child.

When Cantwell asked Kennedy to elaborate in court, he described some of the incidents as "horseplay."

Authorities said they contacted 170 former clients during the investigation.

Kennedy is free on \$2,500 bail and was scheduled for sentencing March 8.

## Virginia changing road

**VA** ROANOKE — The Virginia Department of Transportation plans major changes to U.S. 220 from Roanoke to the North Carolina border that will cost an estimated \$8.3 million.

VDOT plans to close 23 median crossovers along the 60-mile stretch to improve safety. It will

also install new turn lanes at 11 locations and lengthen existing turn lanes in seven places, among other improvements.

## Lottery and education

**OK** OKLAHOMA CITY — Lottery proceeds would fund a \$500 million education trust issue under a plan supported by university presidents and the governor's office.

The money would be used for major building projects on campuses of the state's 25 public colleges and universities. The lottery approved by voters in November designates 45 percent of net proceeds for higher education.

## Tsunami fines a no-go

**TN** CHATTANOOGA — A judge has rescinded his offer to dismiss traffic tickets for drivers who agreed to make a \$100 donation to victims of the tsunami. Municipal Judge Russell Bean had planned to offer the amnesty option for two weeks but had to end it after only one day amid questions about whether the program was legal. He also said it caused confusion for traffic violators whose cases were in other city courts.

"I watched the disaster on TV and that was why I became emotionally involved and wanted to do this," Bean said. "I do hope that this has created awareness for a need to help our fellow mankind."

The tsunami donation option allowed violators to avoid a fine of up to \$50 and additional court costs, typically about \$78, plus any loss of driver's license points and any report to insurance companies.

## Avanche kills skier

**MT** BOZEMAN — An avalanche in southwestern Montana killed one cross-country skier and injured another, leaving him stranded in the snow for two days until a rescue helicopter could pluck him to safety.

The injured skier was flown to Bozeman Deaconess Hospital. His name and condition were not released.

Shelley Bill Briggs also would not release the name of the victim, one of five cross-country skiers caught in the slide in the Centennial Valley. The body was recovered.

## Paid to baby-sit own son

**NY** NEW YORK — A Brooklyn man was charged with felony welfare fraud after he allegedly accepted \$10,000 in child-care payments from the city for baby-sitting his own son.

Robert Brown, 31, did not disclose that he was the 11-year-old boy's father when he began receiving payments three years ago under a city program that subsidizes child-care providers for parents who are either on welfare or working part-time, prosecutors said.

Brown was listed as caretaker by the boy's mother, Essie Porter, 40. Their scheme unraveled when city workers checked the boy's birth certificate and saw Brown identified as the father, prosecutors said.

Both Brown and Porter pleaded innocent at their arraignment on welfare fraud charges in Brooklyn Supreme Court. They face up to seven years in prison if convicted.

Stories and photos from wire services

# FACES

## Screen legend's race car catches fire

A race car being driven by Paul Newman spun and caught fire Saturday at Daytona International Speedway in Florida, but the Academy Award-winning actor was not injured.

Newman was driving a Daytona Prototype sports car for next month's Rolex 24 when he spun on the road course, said Adam Sall, Grand American Series spokesman. The car did not hit anything, but the engine caught fire when Newman tried to restart the vehicle.

The fire was contained to the engine compartment, and Newman escaped without harm. He was taken to the track's infirmary medical center and released after a brief exam.

"I don't know what happened," said Newman, who returned to the track to watch one of his drivers, Sebastian Bourdais, test another car. "I'm fine. It just caught in one second."



Newman

## Model injured in tsunami returns home

Czech supermodel Petra Nemcova, injured in the South Asian tsunami, has returned to Prague for further treatment, a news agency reported.

Nemcova, who appeared on the cover of the 2003 Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue, was vacationing in Thailand with her boyfriend, photographer Simon Atlee, when the waves swept through their beach hut. She reportedly clung to a tree for eight hours as the water swirled around her.

Atlee, 33, a well-known fashion photographer, remains missing.

## Nelson 'glad' to raise money for victims

For Willie Nelson, picking and singing to raise money for relief efforts from the South Asian tsunami is a natural gesture.

"There really are a lot of people who would like to do something," Nelson said. "We're glad to offer those people opportunities to help out in different ways."

The Austin Music Hall performance Sunday by Nelson and others sold out in less than seven hours, generating \$75,000 for the Red Cross, UNICEF and CARE.

The Texas event joins a slate of concerts organized around the world, including New York City, India, Australia and the United Kingdom.

## Connick to croon on Broadway

Harry Connick Jr., the crooning heartthrob and jazz stylist, will star next season in a Broadway revival of "The Pajama Game," one of the musical theater's biggest hits of the 1950s.

Connick will play the role originated in 1954 by John Raitt, according to Jeffrey Richards, a co-producer of the revival.

Richards called Connick "an actor of enormous charisma and skill, a wonderful singer and a bona fide star."



Connick

## Former girlfriend sues KISS rocker

A woman who says she is a former girlfriend of KISS rocker Gene Simmons is suing him for slander, saying the bass guitarist made her sound like a "sex-addicted nymphomaniac" during a "rockumentary" on VH-1 television.

Georgann Walsh Ward, 53, of Chester, N.Y., says in court papers that a photo of her appeared 11 times during the report on KISS, shown on the network several times in July and August, while Simmons claimed to have had sexual encounters with 4,600 women.

In the documentary, "When KISS Ruled The World," Simmons commented that "there wasn't a girl that was off limits, and I enjoyed every one of them," court papers say.

Ward's papers say that because a photo of her with Simmons was shown during remarks about his sexual adventures, she was in effect portrayed as "wild" and "unhinged."

No spokesperson for Simmons could be reached for comment.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

# Trying to be a 'big daddy'



AP

## After a decade of wacky films, Adam Sandler's next big role may be a bit more grown-up

BY MIKE SZYMANSKI

Zip2it.com

**A**dam Sandler smiles when he thinks back to his role as the reluctant father in the 1999 wacky comedy "Big Daddy." Now, he's playing a perfect dad to two children in his latest film "Spanglish" and he's itching to give it a try for real. "I just recently started trying and I'm doing the best I can," Sandler cracks in his best little boy voice. "It feels good to try. But playing a father, well, I'm getting a little older and I do want that lifestyle. I do want children. I study dads more."

A little more than a year ago, Sandler married former model Jackie Titone, whom he met doing "Big Daddy" and who had small roles in his films "50 First Dates," "Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo," "Little Nicky" and "Eight Crazy Nights." During family reunions recently, the 38-year-old star has watched his brother with his two children, and says he wants a life like that.

"This character feels so much like my brother — he has two children, he has a wife, he works with me," Sandler says, dressed in jeans and a pink and red flowered shirt at a small news conference.

"He chooses to stay in New Hampshire because he wants his kids to grow up in the school they started with. He is his family's hero."

As the family hero in "Spanglish," Sandler acknowledges this is his most grown-up role to date. After four years on "Saturday Night Live" in the early 1990s, he became a box office success with hits such as "Billy Madison," "Happy Gilmore," "The Wedding Singer," "Anger Management" and "The Waterboy." Each time he seemed to play the same half-dumb immature geek.

But after surprising audiences with his serious romantic role in "Punch-Drunk Love" in 2002, he decided to grow up a bit in both his roles and in his life. When "As Good As It Gets" and "Terms of Endearment" Oscar-winning director James L. Brooks wrote this part of a serious dad in him, Sandler jumped at the chance to do something different.

"I loved his movies, every one he's done," Sandler gushes. "So when he wrote a movie and he wanted me to be in it, I was extremely excited but, in my head I didn't say, 'Oh,

I'm gonna run away from my other stuff.'"

Expect Sandler to be wacky again — he's next working on a movie about a universal remote control that takes over his life, titled "Click" — but he hopes to do it as a real-life dad. He's watched his father and siblings as parents and continues to take notes.

"My parents would get a phone call saying, 'Hey, we're going away to Bermuda this weekend. You want to come? But, we're not bringing the kids.' My parents would go, 'No kids? Oh no, then we can't go.' That was my father and mother's sacrifice," Sandler recalls. "They didn't care about anything but the kids and I feel like that's a big part of my character."

*"Playing a father, well, I'm getting a little older and I do want that lifestyle."*

Adam Sandler

and a meek boy. They live with his alcoholic mother-in-law (Cloris Leachman) and they hire a maid who speaks no English (Paz Vega) and has a young daughter. Temptation arises as his marriage seems to be falling apart, but it's up to Sandler to keep them all together.

"Jim coached me through every scene and told me what he wanted," says Sandler.

The comedian doesn't speak Spanish well, but says "Paz taught me a few words that, if people weren't nice to me, I could tell them a few things." He also doesn't cook for himself like his character does, but thanks to a chef who was a consultant on the set, he learned how to make a mean BLT sandwich.

Sandler's co-stars say they loved working with him because he's so funny all the time. Leachman says, "He has no ego whatsoever; you can't find it."

Leoni, as his wife, does a rather painful sex scene with him where she gets a bit carried away with her running shoes. "We shot many takes of that scene and he was a trouper through it all," says Leoni.

"He always is his usually boyishly charming self." Sandler recalls. "I was hurting! My poor chest! The camera kept rolling and Tea kept whacking. Like by take six, wow, my make-up girl would have to run in and put fresh color back on my chest."

# Gulf forum tackles violence against women

BY ADNAN MALIK  
The Associated Press

MANAMA, Bahrain — Human rights organizations and activists on Monday urged governments throughout the Persian Gulf region to take immediate action to combat violence against women in their societies.

"All governments must send a strong message to those responsible for violence against women that such violence is a crime and will not be tolerated," said Abdel Salam Sidahmed, Middle East program director for Amnesty International.

The regional forum, which brought together more than 60 participants, was organized to discuss ways of halting violence and discrimination toward women in the traditional, male-dominated Islamic nations — some of which have resisted western concepts of the rights of women.

## Governments called on to take a stand in region where women's rights are taboo

The subject is considered taboo in parts of the culturally conservative region.

A statement released on Monday called on regional governments to introduce legislation criminalizing "inherent" violence against women in their countries.

"Violence against women — whether perpetrated by state or non-state actors — must be criminalized," Sidahmed said in a release handed to reporters at the end of the two-day forum.

The conference recommended that a regional research center be set up to monitor the situation. It should work closely with

other institutions that deal with violence against women, the statement said.

The conference also appealed to the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council and Yemen to ensure there is no impunity for those responsible for acts of violence against women, provide appropriate housing facilities for battered women, and create hot lines linked to institutions that offer protection to the victims of violence.

The recommendations, which will be included in a letter sent to the governments of the GCC nations and Yemen, also urged them to ratify the International Convention

to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Participants said they will pressure authorities to follow up on the recommendations.

"We have to push and we will keep pushing for our rights," said Ghada Jamsheer, who heads the Bahrain Social Partnership for Combating Violence Against Women.

The conference follows last July's fact-finding mission to the region by Amnesty International.

Participants praised Bahrain for its progress in women rights and for hosting the conference.

In April, Bahrain's monarch Sheik Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa appointed a woman to the Cabinet for the first time. Bahrain has women in its parliament and in senior posts in government ministries.

## No game today



A groundsman looks out across the soaked Carlisle United's Brunton park soccer pitch Monday as floodwaters finally began to subside in Carlisle, England, following heavy flooding over the weekend.

## Vatican's goals for new year include hunger relief, opposing gay marriage

The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul II on Monday called for more opposition to laws approving gay marriage and rights for unwed couples, urged a vast public mobilization against hunger and restated the Roman Catholic Church's ban on stem cell use.

The pontiff set out the Vatican's priorities for 2005 in his traditional New Year's address to the diplomatic corps accredited to the Holy See and representing 174 countries.

Seated in a frescoed hall of the Apostolic Palace, John Paul said his feeling of joy in offering New Year's wishes to the ambassadors was tempered by the bad news of 2004, including the devastating tsunami.

In an obvious reference to laws in several countries or localities permitting marriage between homosexuals or equating the social rights of unwed couples to married ones, John Paul said that in



Pope John Paul II gives his traditional New Year's address Monday to the diplomatic corps accredited to the Holy See and representing 174 countries, setting out the Vatican's priorities for 2005.

some countries, the family's "natural structure" is challenged.

John Paul reassured the church's opposition, "supported by reason and science," to abortion, assisted procreation and scientific research on human embryonic stem cells.

The world also needs to do

something about malnutrition and hunger suffered by millions of people, the pontiff told the diplomats.

The 84-year-old pope spoke in French, delivering the opening and closing remarks of a five-page speech and letting an aide read the central portion.

## No easy answers for race to build nukes across Arab world

BY DONNA BRYSON  
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — Questions about why Arabs would want nuclear weapons are usually answered with one word: Israel.

But the latest allegations about Arab nuclear ambitions — involving Egypt — are a reminder of the inadequacies of simple answers in an uncertain and unstable part of the world.

If Egypt were pursuing nuclear weapons, which it denies, it may have been driven by fear of Iran as much as of Israel, by geopolitical concerns or by events in places as far away as India.

Diplomats in Vienna, Austria, where the International Atomic Energy Agency is based, told The Associated Press last week that the agency had found evidence of secret Egyptian nuclear experiments that could be part of a weapons program. The diplomats said most of the work appears to have been done in the 1980s and 1990s, but that the U.N. nuclear watchdog also was looking at evidence suggesting some work was performed as recently as a year ago.

There have been questions about Egypt's nuclear program in the past. Shannon Kyle, an expert on proliferation at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, said Egypt was known to have had a fledgling nuclear weapons program a generation ago but made little progress because of opposition from the Soviet Union.

Kyle said Egypt's activities in recent years have been confined to small-scale experimentation in areas that have weapons as well as energy uses. Egypt makes no secret of its nuclear programs for medical and research purposes. Egypt announced in 2002 for a nuclear power reactor appear to have stalled. But questions have been raised about visits to Egypt by Abdul Qadeer Khan, the Pakistani scientist who has admitted passing nuclear technology to other countries.

In response to the reports from Vienna, Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Aboul Gheit told reporters Wednesday his country was "fully committed" to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which it signed in 1968.

Egypt, though, has in recent years begun to question whether the treaty can deliver on its promise of containing the threat posed by nuclear weapons. Some critics say the treaty just frees the military advantage nuclear powers such as the United States and Russia have over the rest of the world.

India tested a nuclear weapon in 1998. Its archrival Pakistan quickly answered with its own tests. Both were punished by U.S. economic sanctions, but most of the sanctions were later lifted in exchange for the groups' support of the U.S.-led war on terror.

The most direct impact of the tests, Bhaskar said, was felt in Iran, which already feared Israel had a nuclear arsenal and now saw a neighbor — Pakistan — arming.

Iran says its nuclear program is purely peaceful, but the United States insists Iran is pursuing a nuclear bomb in a secret program. The U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency is seeking to contain.

Kyle, of the Stockholm Institute, said Iran may have been spurred by developments in India and Pakistan, but that its nuclear activities began even earlier, in response to fears that rival Iraq was developing nuclear weapons.

Iraq's ousted dictator Saddam Hussein may have overestimated his progress toward a bomb to scare Iran, risking international wrath, Kyle said.

India, Pakistan, Iran, Iraq, perhaps Egypt — all linked by what proliferation experts Bhaskar calls sometimes unlikely "nuclear interconnections."

"The nuclear entropy of the world is increasing," he said.



## EUROPEAN FORECAST

**Benelux:** Mostly cloudy with rainshowers in the afternoon. Highs in the lower 50s. Wednesday lows in the

**Britain, Ireland:** Mostly cloudy with rainshowers. Highs in the mid 50s. Wednesday lows in the lower 40s.

**Croatia and Bosnia:** Partly cloudy with dense fog in the morning. Highs in the mid to upper 40s. Wednesday lows in the upper 20s.

**France:** Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s to mid 50s. Wednesday lows in the mid 30s to mid 40s.

**Northern Germany:** Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the mid 40s to lower 50s. Wednesday lows in the lower 40s.

**Southern Germany:** Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the mid 40s. Wednesday lows in the lower 30s.

**Hungary:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 40s. Wednesday lows in the upper 20s.

**Northern Italy:** Partly to mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid 40s to mid 50s. Wednesday lows in the upper

**Southern Italy:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s to mid 60s. Wednesday lows in the lower 40s.

**Kosovo:** Partly cloudy with dense fog. Highs in the lower 40s. Wednesday lows in the lower 30s.

**Norway:** Mostly cloudy with isolated snow showers. Highs in the lower 40s. Wednesday lows in the lower

**Portugal, Spain:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s to mid 60s.  
Wednesday lows in the lower 30s to

**Turkey:** Sunny. Highs in the lower 60. Wednesday lows in the upper 30s.

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAF Operational Weather Squadron home page at:  
<https://ows.sembach.af.mil>  
<http://ows.public.sembach.af.mil>



## AERIC

|           |    |    |           |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|-----------|----|----|
|           | HI | LO |           | HI | LO |
| Cape Town | 79 | 66 | Mogadishu | 89 | 77 |
| Dakar     | 76 | 65 | Nairobi   | 83 | 61 |
| Freetown  | 88 | 73 | Rabat     | 62 | 41 |

## THE WORLD

|           | HI | LO |             | HI | LO |
|-----------|----|----|-------------|----|----|
| Amsterdam | 52 | 42 | Manila      | 86 | 77 |
| Bahrain   | 65 | 50 | Mexico City | 71 | 40 |
| Beijing   | 37 | 14 | Montreal    | 33 | 14 |
| Beirut    | 63 | 49 | Riyadh      | 63 | 46 |
| Bermuda   | 71 | 62 | Rio de Jan  | 89 | 78 |
| Caracas   | 86 | 72 | Seoul       | 28 | 15 |
| Helsinki  | 40 | 31 | Sofia       | 50 | 26 |
| Hong Kong | 69 | 61 | Sydney      | 79 | 68 |
| Ishgari   | 56 | 50 | Tyrol       | 49 | 39 |

A map of the Middle East region showing flight routes from various cities to Istanbul. The cities and their flight times are: Tel Aviv (67/45), Cairo (69/49), Baghdad (57/38), and Kuwait (62/43). The map also shows the borders of Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait. A starburst symbol is located in the center of the map, representing Istanbul.

## MIDEAST

|                     | Today  | Tomorrow |
|---------------------|--------|----------|
| Sunrise (Baghdad)   | 7:07AM | 7:07AM   |
| Sunrise (Frankfurt) | 8:21AM | 8:20AM   |
| Sunset (Baghdad)    | 5:15PM | 5:16PM   |
| Sunset (Frankfurt)  | 4:47PM | 4:48PM   |



## TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

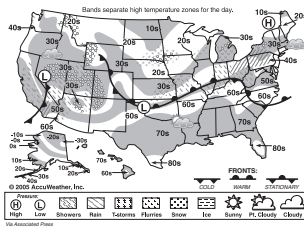
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| 29  | PCity | Hartford Spring | 34 | 29 | PCity | Ne |
| 30  | PCity | Hartford        | 44 | 39 | PCity | Ne |
| 31  | PCity | Hartford        | 44 | 39 | PCity | Ne |
| 32  | PCity | Hartford        | 44 | 39 | PCity | Ne |
| 33  | PCity | Hartford        | 44 | 39 | PCity | Ne |
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| 100 | PCity | Hartford        | 44 | 39 | PCity | Ne |

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| 67        | 66  | City | San Angelo    | 75    | 56  |
| Interests | 76  | 61   | San Antonio   | 78    | 65  |
| 68        | 62  | City | San Antonio   | 79    | 66  |
| 69        | 63  | City | San Antonio   | 80    | 67  |
| 70        | 64  | City | San Francisco | 54    | 72  |
| 71        | 65  | City | San Jose      | 52    | 81  |
| 72        | 66  | City | San Jose      | 53    | 82  |
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| 317       | 311 | City | San Jose      | 298   | 327 |
| 318       | 312 | City | San Jose      | 299   | 328 |
| 319       | 313 | City | San Jose      | 300   | 329 |
| 320       | 314 | City | San Jose      | 301   | 330 |
| 321       | 315 | City | San Jose      | 302</ |     |

# THE UNITED STATES TODAY

As of noon, Eastern U.S. time



Scheduled to **ETS** or **PCS**?

# Horoscope

Capricorn is a responsible and focused energy that helps distill life's chaos down to its useful essence. New information is all well and good, but how does it apply? What's the practical action we should follow to get to the next step? Tolerance is no for anything that doesn't contribute directly to the bottom line.

## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

**(January 11).** This will be a busy, energetic year for you, bustling with social commitments and working with creative insights. A project you've been nursing with care and love goes public in February. March is cozy and romantic, while summertime is a whirlwind of publicity for your business. Also, a family-related event is featured in June.

## ARIES (March 21-April 19).

Your inner wisdom is no dummy — neither is it a betrayer. It wants to guide you toward your true mission and purpose. Stop fighting it. By focusing on your spiritual needs, you better the world in your own unique way.

## TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

You have an innate ability to create order out of chaos. Attract the person you desire by showing him or her what a steady, calming force you can be. Water signs Cancer and Pisces worship the ground you walk on.

## GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

Being a perfectionist can be stressful. Go easy on yourself — you don't need to be right all the time. By redirecting your keen insight and using it to support others, you impart knowledge that is uncannily true and perceptive.

## CANCER (June 22-July 22).

You feel energized and more than a little bit lucky. Your intuition and creativity get a booster shot, too. Make the most of these stellar aspects by tackling your passion project with renewed gusto.

## LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

The universe gives you a happy wink and a nod. You get a well-deserved break, enabling you to breathe a little easier and feel a little lighter. If

you hold your head up high, you can see over any obstacles to a perfect day.

## VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

You'll be successful if you play by the rules. Good old-fashioned hard work is a sure bet than winning the lottery, though flukes of outrageous fortune are in the stars for some of you. Remain upbeat and confident.

## LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

Your senses are laser sharp, and you're able to see things, people and situations for exactly what they are. Focus that X-ray vision on a project that requires serious concentration, and you will succeed magnificently.

## SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

A positive opportunity to examine your values arises. Dump any old beliefs that just aren't working for you anymore. Make room for new truths. The successful future you envision is much nearer than you think.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

You don't just "get by" with a little help from your friends, you excel and thrive. Because of your fun-loving nature, powerful pals get a thrill out of giving you a leg up in life. Accept this with gratitude.

## CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

Good news concerning love, money or the arts is found in your mailbox or voice mail. Perhaps a friend sends you a complimentary ticket, or a certain cute is asking about you. When the message comes, act fast.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

It's hard to stay focused on mundane concerns like work and bills when your head's in the clouds. Your imagination is captivated by dreamy romance or flights of fancy involving winning the lottery. Give in to pleasure.

## PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

Your subconscious is sending you subliminal love notes to help you stay on the path to happiness. Note any interesting dreams, gut reactions or unusual experiences you might have. These are important clues.

Creators Syndicate

## Holiday Mathis



## Calvin and Hobbes



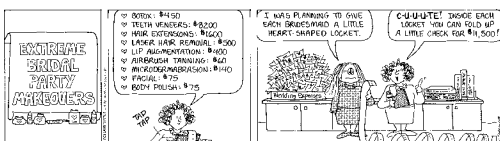
## Jump Start



## Zits



## Cathy



## Hi and Lois



## Hi and Lois



## Beetle Bailey



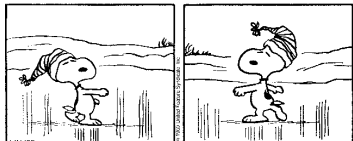
## Red Rover



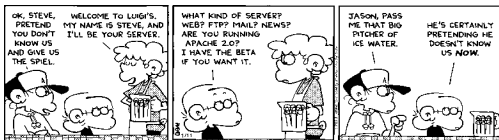
## Better or Worse



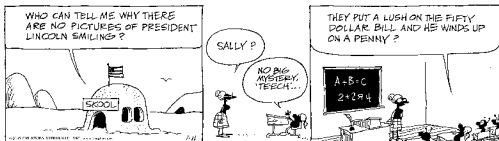
## Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



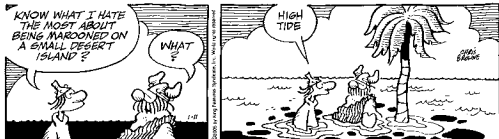
Blondie



Dilbert



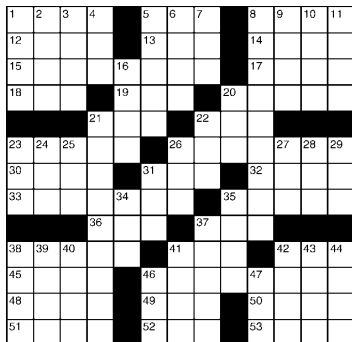
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## Across

- 1 Cacophony from the kernel
- 5 Turf
- 8 Tops
- 12 Hydrox rival
- 13 Seesaw quorum
- 14 Humdinger
- 15 "White Album" song
- 17 Speedy steed
- 18 Maryland emblem
- 19 Dog tags et al.
- 20 Listerine alternative
- 21 Opinion
- 22 Tie up the phone
- 23 Tremendous
- 26 Greek consonants
- 30 Pinnacle
- 31 Mr. DeLuise
- 32 Mississippi River feeder

## Down

- 1 Vacillate
- 2 Vicinity
- 3 Fringe benefit
- 4 Turn on the waterworks
- 5 Prep for finals
- 6 Hasn't paid yet
- 7 Spanish 13-Across
- 8 "White Album" song
- 9 Mark replacement
- 10 Hit a puck
- 11 Hollow cylinder
- 16 Story teller
- 20 Muppet eagle
- 21 "White Album" song
- 22 Thanksgiving veggie
- 23 Mule of song
- 24 "Lazy River"

25 Basilica bench

26 Part of UCLA

27 Fawn's mom

28 Idolator's emotion

29 Easy mark

31 Desiccate

34 Massachusetts symbol

35 Give as an example

37 Blood bank VIP

38 Snatch

39 Across Olin

40 Vittles

41 Old fogy

42 DeMille movie, usually

43 Maltese money

44 Acute

46 Chapeau

47 "Of course"

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



## I-II

## CRYPTOQUIP

XOGQW GNQ OXGNQW HQG  
NDL MQQ BDYL NXEQ  
LQEQWXH OQHG-GDC CQTL.

NQ MXL X SXWBQY SXT.  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I NOTICED A SHEEPDOG PUPPY EATING CANTALOUPE, SO I CALLED HIM MY MELON COLLIE BABY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals T

# Tough to leave victimization behind

**Dear Abby:** I was molested at the age of 9. It went on for about five years. Eventually the man who molested me also raped me. I tried numerous times to tell my mother, but she would never believe me. I even went to the school counselor.

My mother had a serious alcohol problem and didn't seem to realize what was going on. "Ronny," the man who raped me, used to beat my mother until she was unconscious — and then call me in and tell me it was my fault for telling on him, and that I should let him do what he wanted or he would hurt my mother again. Because I was only 9, I felt like I had to protect her.

Ronny has since passed away, but I am still scared by what happened to me. My mother has never forgiven herself for not believing me, and I have suppressed much of what happened. I am scared that one day all of

those memories are going to come flooding back and hurt me all over again.

What do you think I should do? Should I leave the memories buried, or find a way to get them out and move on? I have a very understanding man in my life, and we are engaged. Please help me.

**Dear Abby**



**Wants to Move on in Houston**  
**Dear Abby:** The best way to start a new life is to leave the baggage from the old one behind. You were manipulated and victimized by a monster, and counseling can help you to close that horrendous chapter in your life forever.

I received the following letter the morning after yours arrived. Please read it:

**Dear Abby:** I was raped at 13. The only person I told was a girlfriend, who told me it was my fault because I was too outspo-

ken and attractive. After that, I developed a severe social phobia and became shy and nearly housebound.

I could barely talk to people my own age, let alone make friends or date.

In college, I finally sought counseling and began to realize that what happened to me wasn't my fault. I had to decide whether or not I was going to sacrifice more precious years to my fears or move beyond them. Everyone who has been sexually violated needs to talk to a professional. At the very least, a child should talk to an adult.

**Not Afraid Anymore**  
**Dear Not Afraid:** Congratulations for finding the courage to reach out and get the help you needed. I hope other victims of sexual assault will see your letter and learn from it that they were not at fault for the crime that happened to them.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can e-mail to [http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby](mailto:http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby) Universal Press Syndicate

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

LALED

BYBOH

CASMIO

DOLIBY

www.jumble.com

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argrison



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BISON SWISH INNATE BLUING  
Answer: When the kitchen help fell behind, the chef was — "STEWING"

# Classmate's behavior disturbing

**Dear Annie:** I'm a 12-year-old girl attending a local middle school. I enjoy eating lunch with my friends and socializing during that time. My friends and I usually sit at the same table every day. On one particular day, someone took our table before we got there.

So my friend, "Alice," suggested we go to "Jenny," who seemed happy to have our company. Jenny is nice, but very different. During lunch, she talked to herself and made odd sound effects, did these short skits in which she performed all of the parts, and told funny jokes while she pretended to eat our food. We all laughed at her jokes in order to be polite.

It was OK to sit with Jenny that one day, but for the past week or so, she's asked to sit with us every single day. We have never refused, for fear of hurting her feelings. Jenny behaves in the same odd way all the time, and I don't know how much more of it I

**Annie's Mailbox**



can stand. Three of us asked Alice if she knew what we could do, and Alice became angry, so we didn't bring up the subject again. But I can tell that Alice is annoyed with Jenny, too.

**At My Limit**  
**Dear Limit:** It's possible that Jenny is suffering from Tourette's syndrome or some neurological impairment that interferes with her control over her actions. Instead of ditching her, why not ask Jenny, gently, if she is aware that her behavior is a little odd and maybe she could talk to her doctor about it. It may open up a frank and helpful discussion.

**Dear Annie:** This is in response to "No Grimm Steppom," who asked how long she is expected to pay for her stepson's education. As a college counselor and financial adviser, I often get the question of how long to keep paying for a child's education. I have come up with a series of questions for parents to analyze:

1. Does the student have a focused goal, such as an advanced degree and teaching credentials, as opposed to changing majors every year? 2. Is the student carrying a reasonable full-time load (12 hours or more)? 3. Is the student making reasonable progress, taking required courses and making at least a "B" average? 4. Can you afford to continue to make this investment in his future? If the answers are all "yes," then continue to pay. If not, tell your child to make the answers "yes," otherwise the answer to any check-book request is NO.

**Dr. D. in Tallahassee, Fla.**  
**Dear Tallahassee:** Thank you for clarifying the difference between a perpetual student and one who is actively pursuing specific goals.

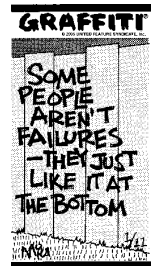
Your letter will help parents decide if they are truly assisting their child in achieving success.

**Annie's Mailbox** is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [annie@mailbox@comcast.net](mailto:annie@mailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

## Family Circus



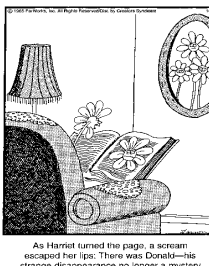
"We learned about them at school. They're our four fathers."



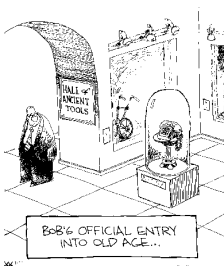
**Dennis the Menace**



**The Far Side**



**Non Sequitur**



As Harriet turned the page, a scream escaped her lips: There was Donald!—his strange disappearance no longer a mystery.

## SCOREBOARD

## AFN TV &amp; Radio

## Tuesday

AFN Sports, 3 a.m.—NBA: Portland at Philadelphia.

AFN Sports, 6 p.m.—NBA: Golden State at Chicago (Ind.).

AFN Sports, 6 p.m.—NBA: Orlando at Boston (Ind.).

## Wednesday

AFN Atlantic, 1 a.m.—College basketball: Louisville at Mississippi.

AFN Sports, 1 a.m.—College basketball: Ohio State at Wisconsin.

AFN Sports, 1030 a.m.—NBA: Detroit at New Jersey.

AFN Sports, 3 a.m.—College basketball: Arizona at Arkansas.

AFN Sports, 9 a.m.—NBA: Miami at Phoenix (Ind.).

All times Central European Time; Ind. indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are approximate. Visit [www.afn.net](http://www.afn.net) for more information.

## College basketball

## AP Men's Top 25 ranked

## Sunday

1. Illinois (16-0) beat Purdue 68-59. Next vs. Penn State, Wednesday.

2. Kansas (11-0) beat No. 8 Kentucky 65-59. Next vs. Texas Tech, Wednesday.

3. North Carolina (13-1) beat No. 22 Maryland 77-62. Next vs. No. 9 Georgia Tech, Wednesday.

4. Wake Forest (11-1) beat Clemson 104-68. Next vs. No. 22 Maryland, Tuesday.

5. Duke (11-1) beat Seton Hall 62-54. Next at North Carolina State, Wednesday.

6. Syracuse (15-0) beat Temple 74-75. No. 20 Boston College, Wednesday.

7. Oklahoma State (11-1) beat Texas Tech 68-59. Next vs. Texas Tech, Wednesday.

8. Kentucky (10-2) lost to No. 2 Kansas 66-67. Next vs. Vanderbilt, Wednesday.

9. Connecticut (11-2) beat Virginia 52-69. Next at No. 3 North Carolina, Wednesday.

10. Georgia Tech (9-2) beat Georgetown 66-59. Next vs. Oklahoma, Wednesday.

11. Gonzaga (11-3) beat Loyola Marymount, Calif. 89-81. Next at Loyola Marymount, Thursday.

12. Washington (11-2) lost to UCLA 95-83. Next vs. Oregon, Thursday.

13. Arizona (11-2) beat Stanford 67-56. Next vs. Southern California, Thursday.

14. Iowa (12-3) lost to Texas Tech 61-69. Next at Mississippi State, Thursday.

15. Alabama (12-3) beat LSU 73-58. Next at Alabama, Tuesday.

16. Michigan State (10-2) beat Northwestern 66-59. Next at Wisconsin, Tuesday.

17. West Virginia (11-1) beat No. 3 John's 66-59. Next at Wake Forest, Tuesday.

18. Maryland (9-3) lost to No. 3 N. Carolina 105-75. Next at No. 4 Wake Forest, Tuesday.

19. Cincinnati (12-1) beat Saint Louis 69-53. Next at East Carolina, Wednesday.

20. Georgia Tech (12-2) beat Duquesne 81-57. Next at St. Bonaventure, Wednesday.

21. Boston College (12-2) beat Providence 69-60. Next at No. 21 West Virginia, Sunday.

## Men's RPI ratings

CARMEI, Inc.—The Rating Performance Index (RPI) has been used by the NCAA since 1991 to supplement the selection of all sport teams and the seeding of all teams for the NCAA basketball tournament. This list is an independent calculation of the RPI without input from the NCAA.

The winning RPI to the RPI without input from the NCAA. The winning RPI to the RPI without input from the NCAA.

Games against non-Division I opponents are not used in calculating RPI.

## Through Jan. 9

|                   | Rank | Record | Strength | Rank |
|-------------------|------|--------|----------|------|
| 1. Kansas         | 11   | 0-709  | 5        | 7680 |
| 2. Oklahoma St.   | 11   | 0-659  | 5        | 6972 |
| 3. Boston College | 11   | 0-638  | 5        | 6972 |
| 4. Wake Forest    | 11   | 0-635  | 5        | 6972 |
| 5. Virginia       | 11   | 0-635  | 5        | 6972 |
| 6. Duke           | 11   | 0-5578 | 80       | 6751 |
| 7. Georgia Tech   | 11   | 0-6155 | 26       | 6591 |
| 8. Oregon         | 10   | 0-6489 | 10       | 6591 |
| 9. Cincinnati     | 10   | 0-6388 | 13       | 6591 |
| 10. Gonzaga       | 11   | 0-6388 | 13       | 6591 |
| 11. Virginia      | 11   | 0-6388 | 13       | 6591 |
| 12. N. Carolina   | 11   | 0-5478 | 94       | 6187 |
| 13. Wake Forest   | 11   | 0-5478 | 94       | 6187 |
| 14. Temple        | 5    | 0-7471 | 2        | 6297 |
| 15. Kentucky      | 10   | 0-5601 | 77       | 6262 |
| 16. Syracuse      | 15   | 0-5259 | 127      | 6262 |
| 17. Wisconsin     | 10   | 0-5990 | 33       | 6255 |
| 18. Cincinnati    | 10   | 0-5990 | 33       | 6255 |
| 19. Cincinnati    | 11   | 0-5975 | 152      | 6255 |
| 20. Washington    | 10   | 0-5706 | 59       | 6187 |
| 21. Vanderbilt    | 11   | 0-5952 | 36       | 6187 |
| 22. Kent St.      | 11   | 0-5952 | 36       | 6187 |
| 23. Michigan St.  | 10   | 0-5427 | 98       | 6137 |
| 24. Detroit       | 11   | 0-5427 | 98       | 6137 |
| 25. Minnesota     | 11   | 0-5588 | 61       | 6137 |
| 26. Iowa          | 11   | 0-5427 | 98       | 6137 |
| 27. Arizona St.   | 11   | 0-5106 | 147      | 6085 |

|                   |    |        |     |      |
|-------------------|----|--------|-----|------|
| 32. Marquette     | 12 | 0-4832 | 184 | 6083 |
| 33. Massachusetts | 12 | 0-4832 | 184 | 6083 |
| 34. Texas         | 11 | 0-4832 | 184 | 6083 |
| 35. Illinois      | 11 | 0-5487 | 92  | 6059 |
| 36. Oklahoma      | 11 | 0-5487 | 92  | 6059 |
| 37. Rice          | 7  | 0-6322 | 16  | 6059 |
| 38. Wake Forest   | 11 | 0-6322 | 16  | 6059 |
| 39. Clemson       | 9  | 0-6183 | 24  | 6007 |
| 40. Wake Forest   | 9  | 0-6183 | 24  | 6007 |
| 41. Missouri      | 9  | 0-5944 | 38  | 5975 |
| 42. UNLV          | 6  | 0-6603 | 6   | 5966 |
| 43. Pacific       | 9  | 0-5944 | 38  | 5975 |
| 44. S. Carolina   | 9  | 0-5713 | 58  | 5966 |
| 45. Villanova     | 9  | 0-5944 | 38  | 5975 |
| 46. Nevada        | 10 | 0-5308 | 117 | 5933 |
| 47. Wake Forest   | 10 | 0-5308 | 117 | 5933 |
| 48. Arkansas      | 13 | 0-5084 | 149 | 5929 |
| 49. Wake Forest   | 13 | 0-5084 | 149 | 5929 |
| 50. Wichita St.   | 10 | 0-4574 | 226 | 5530 |

| Conferences        | Rank | Record | Strength | Rank |
|--------------------|------|--------|----------|------|
| 1. Atlantic Coast  | 40   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 2. Pacific         | 41   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 3. Big Ten         | 42   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 4. Big 12          | 43   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 5. Big 12          | 44   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 6. Southeastern    | 45   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 7. Missouri Valley | 46   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 8. West Coast      | 47   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 9. Conference USA  | 48   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 10. Mountain West  | 49   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 11. Western Ath.   | 50   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 12. Mid-America    | 51   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 13. Big East       | 52   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 14. Sun Belt       | 53   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 15. America East   | 54   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 16. Big West       | 55   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 17. Ivy League     | 56   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 18. Big East       | 57   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 19. Big East       | 58   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 20. Mid-Central    | 59   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 21. Metro Atlantic | 60   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 22. Ohio Valley    | 61   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 23. Big East       | 62   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 24. Big East       | 63   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 25. Big East       | 64   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 26. Big East       | 65   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 27. Big East       | 66   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 28. Big East       | 67   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 29. Big East       | 68   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 30. Big East       | 69   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 31. Big East       | 70   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 32. Big East       | 71   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 33. Big East       | 72   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 34. Big East       | 73   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 35. Big East       | 74   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 36. Big East       | 75   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 37. Big East       | 76   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 38. Big East       | 77   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 39. Big East       | 78   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 40. Big East       | 79   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 41. Big East       | 80   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 42. Big East       | 81   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 43. Big East       | 82   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 44. Big East       | 83   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 45. Big East       | 84   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 46. Big East       | 85   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 47. Big East       | 86   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 48. Big East       | 87   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 49. Big East       | 88   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 50. Big East       | 89   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 51. Big East       | 90   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 52. Big East       | 91   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 53. Big East       | 92   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 54. Big East       | 93   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 55. Big East       | 94   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 56. Big East       | 95   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 57. Big East       | 96   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 58. Big East       | 97   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 59. Big East       | 98   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 60. Big East       | 99   | 19     | 5568     | 3    |
| 61. Big East       | 100  | 19     | 5568     | 3    |

## Sunday's men's scores

## EAST

Albany 70, Wilkes 67.

68-81. Next vs. Oklahoma, Thursday.

12. Washington (11-2) lost to UCLA 95-83.

Next vs. Oregon, Thursday.

13. Arizona (11-2) beat Stanford 67-56.

Next vs. Southern California, Thursday.

14. Iowa (12-3) lost to Texas Tech 61-69.

Next at Mississippi State, Thursday.

15. Alabama (12-3) beat LSU 73-58.

Next at Alabama, Tuesday.

16. Michigan State (10-2) beat Northwestern 66-59.

Next at Wisconsin, Tuesday.

17. West Virginia (11-1) beat No. 3 John's 66-59.

Next at Wake Forest, Tuesday.

18. Maryland (9-3) lost to No. 3 N. Carolina 105-75.

Next at No. 4 Wake Forest, Tuesday.

19. Cincinnati (12-1) beat Saint Louis 69-53.

Next at East Carolina, Wednesday.

20. Georgia Tech (12-2) beat Duquesne 81-57.

Next at St. Bonaventure, Wednesday.

21. Boston College (12-2) beat Providence 69-60.

Next at No. 21 West Virginia, Sunday.

## MIDWEST

Bowling Green 78, N. Illinois 67.

Next vs. Miami, Monday.

Dayton 62, Cornell 51.

Michigan 65, Mississippi 61.

Next vs. Indiana, Monday.

Evansville 69, Illinois 51.

Next vs. Indiana, Monday.

UOY, Marshall 68.

Next vs. Indiana, Monday.

RP, 69. Midwest Engineering 64.

Next vs. Indiana, Monday.

5. Illinois 69, Creighton 63.

## SOUTHWEST

Dallas 63, Washington 57.

Next vs. Baylor, Friday.

Perdipendo 64, San Francisco 57.

Next vs. Baylor, Friday.

## FAIR WEST

Lincoln, Pa. 82, Kent 66.

Next vs. Kent, Friday.

## TOURNAMENTS

Grand Rapids

Third Place

Gwynedd-Mercy 85, Moravian 75

## Radisson Invitational

## Championship

Scorton 69, Kings 57.

## Third Place

Quakana 69, Kings 57.

## Rinsco Marine Invitational

Lebanon Valley 71, N.J. City 71.

## Third Place

FDU-Roham 96, Chestnut Hill 97.

## AP Women's Top 25 ranked

## Sunday

1. LSU (14-1) did not play. Next at Florida, Thursday.

2. Duke (15-1) beat No. 25 Virginia Tech 85-62. Next at Virginia, Thursday.

3. Baylor (12-1) did not play. Next at Nebraska, Thursday.

4. Notre Dame (13-2) lost to Villanova 59-54.

Next vs. Connecticut, Thursday.

5. North Carolina (12-2) lost to No. 21 Iowa 66-56. Next vs. Wisconsin, Thursday.

7. Texas (8-4) did not play. Next at No. 12 Texas Tech, Wednesday.

8. Ohio State (14-2) beat Arkansas 76-65.

Next vs. California, Thursday.

9. Ohio State (14-2) beat Liberty 66-51.

Next at Michigan, Thursday.

10. Tennessee (13-2) beat No. 23 New Mexico 75-55. Next at No. 24 Purdue, Thursday.

11. Tennessee (13-2) did not play. Next vs. No. 7 Texas, Wednesday.

12. Tennessee (13-2) did not play. Next vs. No. 7 Texas, Wednesday.

13. Rutgers (10-4) did not play. Next at No. 4 Notre Dame, Wednesday.

14. Vanderbilt (12-2) beat South Carolina 64-56. Next at No. 14 Virginia, Thursday.

15. Georgia Tech (12-4) did not play. Next vs. North Carolina, Thursday.

16. Iowa (13-2) lost to No. 6 Michigan State 66-56. Next at No. 6 Michigan State, Thursday.

17. DePaul (11-3) lost to Marquette 63-57.

Next vs. Marquette, Thursday.

20. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

21. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

22. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

23. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

24. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

25. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

26. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

27. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

28. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

29. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

30. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

31. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

32. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

33. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next vs. Kansas State, Thursday.

# Appleby gets PGA Tour off to surprising start

## Australian defends title in Mercedes Championships as Singh, Els, Woods falter

By DOUG FERGUSON  
The Associated Press

KAPALUA, Hawaii — Everything fell into place for Stuart Appleby, even before he showed up on Maui and made a successful defense of his title in the Mercedes Championships.

His wife is in Australia expecting their first child, but he was assured the birth would not happen until he got home.

Unable to hit balls a week before the tournament because of nerve problems in his left leg, stretching exercises made him fit enough to play.

And with the tournament up for grabs Sunday, Appleby got unexpected help.

The 33-year-old Aussie captured the season-opener on the PGA Tour, playing the final 55 holes without a bogey and letting everyone else collapse down the stretch for a one-shot victory.

"You'd have to say it's slightly surprising," Appleby said.

The biggest shock was what happened behind him. Vijay Singh was tied for the lead until hitting a tee shot he never found on No. 13 to make triple bogey.

Eddie Elz looked like a shoo-in to four-putt off his tee shot on the par-518th ricocheted off a cart path and vanished into trees and shrubs.

Tiger Woods couldn't make a birdie putt that mattered.

And when Jonathan Kaye messed up a chip on the final hole, Appleby wound up in a position he never could have imag-



Stuart Appleby hits from the second tee during the final round of the Mercedes Championships on Sunday at the Kapalua Plantation Course in Kapalua, Hawaii. Appleby finished 21 under par to win the tournament for the second straight year. Appleby played the final 55 holes without a bogey.

ined until the first PGA Tour event of the year was in the books — a lei draped around his neck, the trophy in his hand and another sports car in his collection.

"I just had to keep my head down and do my thing," he said.

"I've never been a player that's had enough experience to run from that far behind. But it's nice to know that when the dice is rolling good, you just keep throwing."

He threw down a 6-under 67 in the final round for a one-shot victory over Kaye, becoming the first player in 22 years to win back-to-back in the Mercedes Championships, and the only player on Kapalua to have a round over par and still win the tournament.

"You look at where I was after round one, you would not have put any money on me," he said.

Appleby finished at 21-under

271 and earned \$1.06 million for his sixth career victory, assuring himself a trip back to Kapalua next year.

Kaye closed with a 71, while Woods (68) and Els (71) were two shots behind. Singh (74) and Stewart Cink, who made two bogeys over the final three holes for a 71, were another stroke behind with Adam Scott (65).

Appleby got into the mix by driving the 398-yard sixth hole —

downwind, with a steep hill over the final 100 yards down to the green — to set up a 12-foot eagle putt. He added two tough birdies on the back nine, including a 25-footer on the 17th that gave him the outright lead for the first time all week.

Appleby wasn't even aware of his position. Having won last year, he knows that leads can change in a hurry.

"I just ran hard across the line and tried to get my nose in front," he said.

Nor did he have any idea what was going on behind him.

The final round was played in the toughest conditions all week.

Two inches of rain overnight left the turf soggy, and the Kona wind from the opposite direction made the Plantation Course at Kapalua a beast.

Five players had at least a share of the lead at some point.

Singh, who had a one-shot lead going into the final round, made his first bogey of the year with a three-putt from 50 feet on No. 4 and was still tied until he stepped to the 13th tee and pulled his drive into the waist-high weeds. His next tee shot went into the rough, his wedge came up short and he missed a 5-footer to make triple bogey.

Woods, who only played to post all four rounds in the 60s at Kapalua, was never a serious factor because of his putting. He missed a dozen putts inside 12 feet all week, and Sunday he was much better. With one last chance to make a move, he missed a 5-footer on No. 13 and a 10-footer on the 16th.

# Armstrong still unsure of plans for Tour de France

The Associated Press

SILVER SPRING, Md. — Lance Armstrong is still unsure about his plans for this year's Tour de France.

Armstrong on Monday said he plans to ride in several of the European spring classics before deciding late April whether to try for a seventh consecutive Tour de France victory in July.

"I'll definitely be in France this summer," Armstrong said. "It just might not be on the bike."

Armstrong spoke as his Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team announced its 2005 race schedule. The team's 28 riders from 15 countries will start 11 days of training in California on Tuesday, but it no longer has the laser-beam focus on winning the Tour de France above all else — as it has in years past.

"It's definitely a departure, beginning the year not focusing on the Tour," said Armstrong, the only six-time winner of cycling's most prestigious race.

Armstrong has promised his team's new sponsors that he will ride in at least one more Tour de France. He is offering several reasons for possibly waiting until 2006 to fulfill that obligation.

Recently, Armstrong has pinned

## Sports briefs

for a chance to focus on some of the races he has ignored or never won because his focus has always been on the Tour of France. He said his tentative plans for this year include the Tour of Flanders in Belgium (March 4-6), the Amstel Gold Race in the Netherlands (April 17), the Fleche Wallonne in Belgium (April 20) and the Liege-Bastogne-Liege in Belgium (April 24). He has only won one of those races, the Fleche Wallonne in 1996, shortly before he was diagnosed with testicular cancer.

## Former CU PK Hnda says harassment began quickly

DENVER — A former Colorado kicker who says she was raped by a teammate and terrified of telling her coach about it said sexual harassment started the day she joined the team.

Katie Hinda said she is still haunted by what she went through. "It's been five years, and it's still terrifying. It's still something that I wake up with and I deal with," Hinda said in an interview aired Monday on NBC's "Today."

At least nine women including Hinda have said they were assaulted by Colorado football players or recruits since 1997. No criminal charges have been filed, though Hinda said she is part of an investigation by the state attorney general and Boulder police.

"The investigation is very far from over," said Hinda, who first told her story of rape and mistreatment to Sports Illustrated last February.

The university issued a statement Monday saying it has asked Hinda to provide information about the alleged attack so action can be taken.

"Regrettably, she has chosen not to respond to these calls, but we understand that is her personal decision," the school said.

"We admire Katie's strength and perseverance in pursuing her dream of playing college football, and we wish her the very best in her future endeavors."

Hinda joined Colorado in 1999 as a walk-on but never got into a game. She transferred to New Mexico in 2002 and the next year became the first woman to score in a Division I-A football game, kicking two extra points in a 72-8 win over Texas State-San Marcos.

Colorado coach Gary Barnett

was suspended for three months in early 2004 in part for comments he made after Hinda's story was revealed. He called her an "awful" player and said "not only was she a girl, she was terrible."

Hinda said her mistreatment began on the first day of practice when, on her way to the locker room, she was "surrounded by five men who were much bigger than I was asking me sexual questions."

The problems continued throughout the season, she told "Today."

## Yow to miss two games with recurrence of breast cancer

RALEIGH, N.C. — North Carolina State women's basketball coach Kay Yow will miss two games because of a recurrence of breast cancer, the school said Monday.

Yow, who earned her 600th victory at the school in December — coached in Sunday's loss to Clemson. She will miss Friday's game against North Carolina and next week's game against Virginia Tech.

She is expected to return to the bench against Miami on Jan. 20. Associate head coach

Stephanie Glance will take over in the interim.

## Munich wants to bid for 2014 Winter Olympics

FRANKFURT, Germany — Munich, the Bavarian capital which hosted the 1972 Summer Olympics, wants to bid for the 2014 Winter Games.

Germany's National Olympic Committee will examine a feasibility study for a Munich bid at its next meeting at the end of the month, spokesman Michael Schirp said Monday.

Munich's planned bid comes after another German city, Leipzig, failed to make the list of finalists in the race for the 2012 Summer Games.

Munich still has the infrastructure from the 1972 Games, including an Olympic arena, as well as an array of nearby winter sports centers that regularly host top-level competitions.

The 1972 Munich Olympics were overshadowed by a raid of Palestinian gunmen on the athletes' village that resulted in the deaths of 11 members of the Israeli team.

The deadline for submission of bids for the 2014 Winter Games is July 2005. The International Olympic Committee will select the host city in 2007.

# Heat's call on reserves to ease sleep of Heat

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Danny Fortson has gotten a kick out of playing against Shaquille O'Neal. With this kind of success you wouldn't he? For the second time in a week, Fortson and the Seattle SuperSonics got the best of O'Neal and the Miami Heat.

The Sonics ended the Heat's winning streak in Miami last Monday and then beat the Heat again Sunday night, the best record in the East in the home rematch, 108-98.

"I love Shaq," Fortson said. "He's a great guy and I admire him. Any time I'm out there on the court with him, it's an honor."

But Fortson is hardly in awe of the 7-foot-1, 325-pound center who was traded to the Heat by the Los Angeles Lakers last summer.

O'Neal had 28 rebounds, 11 rebounds and five blocked shots in 38 minutes. Fortson answered with 18 points and 10 rebounds, and helped shut down in the fourth quarter when the Heat were outscored 13-1 in the final 4-40.

"It's good," the 6-8 Fortson said. "It gets you ready to play, for one thing. You got some guy you're going against, the strongest guy on earth. You're going to be ready to play."

O'Neal's reserves, led by Vladimir Radmanovic's 27 points, outscored the Miami bench 66-17 — including Fortson's outpour.

O'Neal didn't score after his three-point play with 7:38 left. He might be the strongest player in the NBA, but Fortson is plenty strong, too.

"Everybody is spread out and you have to help on the pick and roll," a tired O'Neal said. "He just bulldozes his way in there."

Raptors 109, Warriors 87: Chris Bosh had 21 points and a career-high 17 rebounds, and Rafer Alston scored 14 second-half points, leading the Raptors at home.

Alston missed 23 straight shots over three games before his layup sparked a 15-2 run in the third quarter. He made his next six shots as Toronto outscored Golden State 36-17 in the third quarter.

Ronnie Peterson had 21 points and Alston added 15 for the Raptors, who led by as many as 30 points.

Clifford Robinson had 18 points for the Warriors, who have lost five straight without leading scorer Jason Richardson (sprained ankle).

**Knicks 113, Trail Blazers 105:** At New York, Allan Houston had the best game of the season with 25 points on 8-for-12 shooting to lead the Knicks.

Jerome Williams had 15 points, six rebounds and four assists as New York ended a season-high four-game losing streak to get back to .500 (17-17).



SuperSonics forward Nick Collison fouls Heat center Shaquille O'Neal in the second half of Seattle's second straight victory over Miami.

even think about it."

The Sonics won on a night when All-Star guard Ray Allen didn't perform like an All-Star. Allen, who scored 35 points in Miami, shot 6-for-17 for 15 points.

"That doesn't happen a lot," Sonics coach Nate McMillan said of Allen's off night.

Eddie Johnson scored 19 points, and Wade had 16 for the Heat.

Bothered by back spasms, Wade shot 3-for-11 after the first quarter.

If the teams are to meet again this season, it'll be in the NBA Finals.

"They got me a two in two close games," Wade said. "We look forward to seeing them later."

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Houston made four three-pointers while surpassing his previous season-high of 21, and Stephon Marbury had 20 points and 12 assists while outkicking his cousin, Portland rookie Sebastian Telford.

Zach Randolph scored 27 and Ruben Patterson added 20 for the Trail Blazers, whose losing streak extended to three games.

**Suns 124, Pacers 89:** At Phoenix, Shawn Marion scored 21 points and Amaré Stoudemire had 20 points and 14 rebounds to help the Suns win their sixth straight and NBA-best 30th game of the season, one more than last season.

Phoenix's 30-4 start ties the 1959-60 Boston Celtics and 1971-72 Milwaukee Bucks for the best start for a team with four losses in NBA history.

Joe Johnson added 15 points and Quentin Richardson 14 in the Suns' high-scoring and most one-point victory of the season.

Jamaal Tinsley scored 21 and Jermaine O'Neal 16 for the Pacers.

**Rockets 116, Nuggets 98:** Tracy McGrady scored 20 his 45 points in the fourth quarter and had 12 rebounds to help Houston pull away in Denver.

McGrady hit four three-pointers and was 7-for-9 overall in the fourth quarter, reaching 40 points for the third time this season — and the second in five games.

McGrady finished 15-for-26, but five assists and three blocked shots.

Yao Ming added 12 points and seven rebounds, and Houston's which shot 51 percent and went 11-for-19 from three-point range.

Carmelo Anthony had 27 points and Kenyon Martin added 15 points and 10 rebounds for the Nuggets, who have lost four straight.

## NBA scoreboard

### Eastern Conference

| Atlantic Division  |    |     |     |
|--------------------|----|-----|-----|
|                    | W  | L   | Pct |
| New York           | 17 | 500 | —   |
| Philadelphia       | 17 | 469 | —   |
| Boston             | 15 | 441 | —   |
| Toronto            | 12 | 371 | —   |
| New Jersey         | 12 | 364 | 4%  |
| Southeast Division |    |     |     |
|                    | W  | L   | Pct |
| Miami              | 19 | 554 | 6   |
| Washington         | 18 | 563 | 7   |
| Orlando            | 16 | 587 | —   |
| Charlotte          | 8  | 267 | 16  |
| Atlanta            | 5  | 161 | 19% |
| Central Division   |    |     |     |
|                    | W  | L   | Pct |
| Cleveland          | 20 | 625 | —   |
| Pittsburgh         | 18 | 563 | —   |
| Indiana            | 16 | 500 | —   |
| Chicago            | 13 | 419 | —   |
| Milwaukee          | 12 | 387 | 7%  |

### Western Conference

| Southwest Division |    |     |     |
|--------------------|----|-----|-----|
|                    | W  | L   | Pct |
| San Antonio        | 27 | 800 | —   |
| Dallas             | 22 | 688 | 4%  |
| Memphis            | 17 | 514 | 10  |
| Houston            | 17 | 500 | 10% |
| New Orleans        | 3  | 294 | 23% |
| Northwest Division |    |     |     |
|                    | W  | L   | Pct |
| Seattle            | 15 | 531 | 7   |
| Portland           | 14 | 438 | 10  |
| Denver             | 14 | 454 | 10% |
| Utah               | 11 | 241 | 14% |
| Pacific Division   |    |     |     |
|                    | W  | L   | Pct |
| Phoenix            | 30 | 482 | —   |
| Sacramento         | 23 | 545 | —   |
| L.A. Lakers        | 17 | 448 | 11% |
| L.A. Clippers      | 16 | 500 | 13  |
| Golden State       | 12 | 334 | 19  |

**Sunday's games**  
 Toronto 108, Golden State 95  
 New York 113, Portland 105  
 Seattle 108, Miami 98  
 Phoenix 124, Indiana 89  
 Houston 116, Denver 98

**Monday's games**  
 Orlando at Portland  
 Portland at Philadelphia  
 L.A. Lakers at Minnesota  
 Golden State at Chicago  
 San Antonio at Utah

**Tuesday's games**  
 Charlotte at Cleveland  
 Milwaukee at Atlanta  
 Detroit at New Jersey  
 New Orleans at New York  
 Denver at Memphis  
 Miami at Phoenix

**Wednesday's games**  
 Boston at Toronto  
 Portland at Washington  
 Detroit at Cleveland  
 Orlando at Minnesota  
 Phoenix at Chicago  
 Milwaukee at San Antonio

**Thursday's games**  
 L.A. Lakers at Denver  
 Houston at Dallas  
 Seattle at Golden State  
 Seattle at L.A. Clippers

### Sunday

**Raptors 109, Warriors 87**  
**Golden State** — Durrenberry 6-13 0-0 13.  
 Murphy 2-14 4-8, Robinson 7-12 0-0 18.  
 Cheaney 2-7 0-0, Clayton 4-11 3-4 11.  
 P. Dubs 2-8 0-0, Foyle 2-7 0-0, Fisher 5-9 0-0.  
 12. Birdies 13-0-2, Flores 0-2-2 2.2.

**Toronto** — E. Williams 1-6-2-3, Bosh 8-9 0-0 14, Peterson 14-14 0-0 14, Anderson 2-4 2-1 0-0 1-15, Marshall 1-4-0-0 1-4.  
 21. Alton 6-10-1-25, Marshall 1-4-0-0 1-4.  
 15. Falco 2-6-2-2, Murray 4-8 0-0 10.  
 14-11 15-17.

**Trail Blazers** — Golden State 21 21 17-26  
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Wade 7-19 2-16, Dolez 3-10 0-2, Dooling 3-5 1-2, Anderson 1-2-2-4, Laettner 2-2-0-4, Butler 0-0-0, Totals 38-39 17-27-58.

**SEATTLE** — Lewis 5-12 1-3, Potapenko 1-0-2, James 0-0-0, O'Neal 5-12 2-2 15.  
 Robinson 12-15 6-16, Hamilton 1-17 0-17.  
 Fortson 5-7 10-18, Daniels 4-8 1-5, Collins-3-0-6, Totals 38-39 25-23 23-30-58.

**Miami** — **Seattle** 29 29 18  
**Three-Point Goals** — Miami 5-16 (Elores 3-6, James 2-0, Butler 0-0), Seattle 3-7 (Radmanovic 3-5, Lewis 2-0, Robinson 1-2).  
 Rebounds — Miami 39, Seattle 29. Fouled out — James, Rebounds — Miami 46 (Hamlet 10), Seattle 37 (Forsyth 10). Assists — Miami 21 (O'Neal 7), Seattle 24 (Allen 4, Daniels, Robinson 7). Totals Fouled 27, Seattle 24. Technicals — Miami 0, Seattle 2. Second 2, Lewis 1. At-1072 (17-072).

**Suns 124, Pacers 89**  
**Indiana** — Curry 0-10-0, O'Neal 15-4-6 16. Foster 0-0-0, Butler 7-12 0-2 15. Miller 3-4 0-8, Crossland 1-2-4, F. Jones 2-6-0-0, Johnson 3-4-4-1, Harrison 5-9 0-10, Jones 3-4-0-7, Gill 2-2-5, Edwards 1-2-0-4. Totals 124-89, 25-18 23-10-58.

**Phoenix** — Richardson 4-10-3-14, Marion 4-12-2, Stoudemire 18-25 7-17, Nash 11-0-10, Johnson 7-14-15, Hunter 5-5-10, Jacobson 5-2-3, Lampe 4-7-12, Outlaw 1-0-2, Barbosa 2-1-0-6, Wouda 1-5-0-6, Vroman 0-1-1-2. Totals 124-89, 25-18 23-10-58.

**Indiana** — **Phoenix** 27 27 15 38  
**Three-Point Goals** — Indiana 5-15 (Miller 3-5, Tinsley 2-3, Jones 2-0, Crossland 2-0), Phoenix 12-33 (Richardson 4-14, Marion 4-12, Stoudemire 3-6, Nash 11-0-10, Johnson 7-14-15, Hunter 5-5-10, Jacobson 5-2-3, Lampe 4-7-12, Outlaw 1-0-2, Barbosa 2-1-0-6, Wouda 1-5-0-6, Vroman 0-1-1-2. Totals 124-89, 25-18 23-10-58.

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# Colts QB Manning chosen as AP's NFL MVP again

## Record-breaking passer receives 47 of 48 votes after sharing honor last season

By BARRY WILNER

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Peyton Manning's phenomenal season earned him his second straight Associated Press NFL Most Valuable Player Award. He was nearly unanimous choice.

The Indianapolis Colts' star quarterback, who surpassed Dan Marino and Steve Young with his passing prowess in 2004, earned all but one of 48 votes from a national panel of sports writers and broadcasters who cover pro football. Manning tied with Steve McNair for the award last season,

but this time only Atlanta quarterback Michael Vick drew a vote.

Manning joined the likes of Joe Montana, John Elway, Steve Young and Kurt Warner as quarterbacks with two MVP awards. Brett Favre is the only player to win it three times.

"Individually, I accomplished a lot in a short period of time," Manning said. "But no question, we did not win a Super Bowl in the time I've been here as a quarterback."

Ever the team man, and ever championship-oriented, Manning refuses to concentrate on his statistics. He might have thrown for

49 touchdowns, surpassing Dan Marino's 20-year-old NFL record. And he may have shattered Young's passer rating record with a 121.1 mark. And he might have established other league marks and a bunch more team records.

But to Manning, unless it all culminates in a championship, it's not what he's after.

"Just because you played well in Week 2 or Week 10 doesn't mean anything for the playoffs," Manning said. "Except that you're capable of doing it."

Manning was capable of doing almost anything in leading the

Colts to a 12-4 record and the AFC South title. They routed Denver 49-24 in the first round of the playoffs — the MVP voting was held before the postseason — and play at New England on Sunday.

He also turned two of his previously unaccomplished receivers, Reggie Wayne and Brandon Stokely, into threats almost on a par with Manning's favorite target, perennial Pro Bowler Marvin Harrison.

All caught at least 10 touchdowns and won over 1,000 yards in receiving — an unprecedented combination for three teammates.

"Peyton is such a competitor, he has such high expectations to go out and win," Wayne said. "You want to make a play for him and bail him out of tough situations."

Tough situations? Manning tends to make everything look easy.

Sort of like Young and Montana and Elway and Warner and Favre did. But all of them have that championship along with their MVPs.

Manning doesn't.

And it drives him to do even more.

# Road to Super Bowl figures to get tougher

## Three of four visiting teams advanced to second round with victories in wild-card games

By DAVE GOLDBERG

The Associated Press

The long-range weather report for Foxboro, Mass., on Sunday is partly cloudy with temperatures from 20 to 30 degrees. Not exactly the RCA Dome this week: no wind and 72.

Yes, Peyton Manning is great, the best active NFL quarterback and moving up the list of the best ever.

But beating a flawed Denver team 49-24 at home in the first round of the playoffs. Sunday is not the same as going into frigid Foxboro against the winner of two of the past three Super Bowls.

So far road teams have fared well in the playoffs — better than ever before in fact. Three of the four winners in the wild-card round were road teams. The Colts were the only home team to win and they'll be the best of the second-round road teams.

They will need all the skill they can muster — they have lost to the Patriots five straight times, including last year's AFC championship game and on the opening night of this season, both times in Foxboro.

Indianapolis-New England will be the final game of next week-end's Super Bowl quarterfinals, which will begin with the other AFC semifinal, the New York Jets at Pittsburgh on Saturday. The Patriots are favored by 3 points; the Steelers by 9.

In the NFC, Minnesota will be at Philadelphia early Sunday after upsetting Green Bay 31-17, joining St. Louis as the first 8-7 teams to advance in the playoffs. The Rams, who beat Seattle 27-20 on Sunday, now go to Atlanta for a Saturday night game.

As in the AFC, these games are rematches. Philadelphia beat the Vikings 27-16 in the second week of the season, a day after the Jets beat St. Louis 34-17 in the Georgia Dome. The Eagles are favored by 9 points, the Falcons by 7.



Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning looks back to his bench after the Colts fumbled the ball during the fourth quarter on Sept. 9 in Foxboro, Mass. The Patriots beat the Colts 27-24. The opening-night loss was the Colts' fifth straight to the Patriots, including last season's AFC championship game.

The most interesting game will be in Foxboro, matching Manning and the other record breakers in the Colts' offense against the defending champs.

They also have the home weather advantage. Of Manning's record 49 touchdowns, 32 were indoors — 26 at home and six more at Detroit's Ford Field.

And in the five losses to New England dating to 2001, Manning has thrown just nine TD passes along with nine interceptions. Once again, he will be facing Tom Brady, who doesn't have Manning's numbers but has the title — two, actually — that Manning lacks.

So Foxboro will be a different story, though it probably will be more like this season's opener, a 27-24 New England victory, than last season's title game, a 24-14

Patriots win that wasn't really that close.

Manning threw four interceptions in the title game. He had just one in this season's matchup — in the end zone by the Patriots' Ed Bruscini on a pass thrown from the New England 6 on the Colts' first possession.

The end of that game was also indicative of why the Patriots have won those two Super Bowls, had a 21-game winning streak over two seasons, and are just the third team with back-to-back 14-2 regular seasons. With the Colts in position for a game-tying field goal, Manning was sacked by Willie McGinest for a 13-yard loss, a typical big play by one of the many big-play guys for the Patriots.

Mike Vanderjagt, forced to kick from 48 yards after the kick, missed a field goal and New En-

gland won.

But the Colts seem confident they can keep their prolific offense going — even in Foxboro in January.

"When the playoffs come around, you definitely want to be hitting on all cylinders," said second-year tight end Dallas Clark, who had six catches for 112 yards on Sunday. "I think we are, and the team keeps getting better every game."

Next weekend's other AFC game is also a rematch. The Steelers beat the Jets 17-6 in Chad Pennington's second game back from a bruised rotator cuff in his throwing shoulder. Pennington's passes flattered in that game, and he threw three interceptions.

He was a lot more confident in New York's dramatic 20:17 overtime upset Saturday night in San Diego, and his arm looked a lot

stronger, notably on a perfect 47-yard pass that hit Santana Moss in stride for a touchdown.

"Obviously I didn't play well the last time we played Pittsburgh, so those questions will be asked again," Pennington said Sunday.

Most of Pittsburgh's starters will have had two weeks off going into the game; the subs actually played well enough in the finale to knock Buffalo out of the playoffs.

So Ben Roethlisberger, who became the first quarterback ever to be voted NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year, will have rested his bruised ribs, and Plaxico Burress and other banged-up Steelers will be healthier.

Rested teams sometimes get rusty, though.

Probably not the Steelers — coach Bill Cowher won't allow it: He had the backups playing hard in Buffalo, and the starters surely will come out strong against the Jets.

Philadelphia, which started 13-1 before tanking its last two games, should be the prohibitive favorite in the NFC. But they will be without Terrell Owens, and may have lost momentum resting most of their key players in those last two losses.

The Vikings have the offensive weapons to cause problems for the Eagles, although Randy Moss, who had two touchdown catches, was limping throughout the 31-17 win in Green Bay. But while their defense played well in Green Bay, it's inconsistent at best. Even without Owens, Philadelphia should move the ball.

St. Louis will have what it likes in Atlanta — an indoor stadium and a fast track. But the track also benefits Michael Vick, who ran for 109 yards and was 14-for-19 for 79 yards in the first meeting.

Moreover, the Rams are a bad road team — 3-6 now, with two wins in Seattle and the third over San Francisco, the NFL's worst team this season.

Maybe in the next round the home teams will actually have an advantage.

### Analysis

# Rappercrowd can't disrupt Kansas in first road game

The Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Kansas coach Bill Self knew what he was doing when he put together his team's schedule.

The second-ranked Jayhawks didn't play on an opponent's home court before Sunday, and many wondered how they would respond in a hostile environment, especially without injured preseason All-America Wayne Simien.

The answer: just fine. In Simien's absence, less-touted inside players C.J. Giles, Christian Moody and Sasha Kaun combined to score 28 points as the Jayhawks beat No. 8 Kentucky 65-59.

Kansas (11-0) is 4-0 without Simien, including wins over Top 10 teams Georgia Tech and Kentucky (10-2). Simien is sidelined following surgery on his left thumb but could be back as early as next week.

The Jayhawks proved they can win on the road — even in front of 24,367 fans, the second-largest crowd in Rupp Arena history.

"We played a good schedule," Self said. "Our RPI and strength of schedule is No. 2 in America. We played good opponents, but we just haven't played away from home."

"You can't really get a gauge of where you are until you leave your own building. I think this was good. Sometimes when you play at home a lot, the pressure is on the home team when expectations are so high. I think getting away, it worked out fine. Our guys didn't act like it was our first road game of the season."

Giles, Moody and Kaun certainly didn't, outplaying Kentucky's more-touted frontline of Chuck Hayes, Keleena Azubike and Randolph Morris.

"We just knew we were as tough as they were," Giles said.

## Men's Top 25 Roundup

In the only other game involving a ranked team on Sunday, No. 15 Texas beat Baylor 79-60.

Giles, a freshman starting in place of Simien, went 5-for-5 from the field and finished with 10 points, six rebounds and two blocked shots. Moody, a junior walk-on, had 11 points and seven rebounds, while Kaun, a freshman who didn't play in Kansas' last game, added seven points.

Another inside player, freshman Alex Galindo, had four blocked shots.

"Our freshmen came through," Self said. "Moody came through, and that's the big thing. We've said all along, before we can be good, we've got to have some other guys come through other than Keith [Langford] and Wayne and Aaron [Miles]. Certainly, that was the case today."

Hayes, Azubike and Morris combined to go 8-for-35 from the field, including an 0-for-8 outing from Morris.

"We just didn't do a good job," Kentucky coach Tubby Smith said. "We got shots up, but I thought it was poor selection not putting the ball back out and re-posting. They took us out of our game. We weren't strong enough and disciplined enough to stay with the game plan."

Kansas' inside dominance proved to be fortuitous for the Jayhawks, because their perimeter trio of Langford, Miles and J.R. Giddens went a combined 7-for-28 from the field.

The win was only the Jayhawks' fourth in 23 meetings with Kentucky and their first in 11 road games with the Wildcats.

The traditional powers hadn't played each other since the 1999 NCAA tournament.

Kansas held its biggest lead at 52-44 with 6:12 left, but a 9-0 Kentucky run, capped by a driving, off-balance layup by Patrick Sparks, put the Wildcats up 53-52 with 3:54 left.

Miles scored his only basket 20 seconds later to regain the lead for good for the Jayhawks, who won despite committing a season-high 21 turnovers.

Kansas led 58-56 and had the ball when Miles fell down while dribbling. The ball bounced to Michael Lee, who made a three-pointer with 30 seconds left.

"In close games, it's often called traveling," Miles said. "We just got lucky on that play."

Miles and Giddens each made two free throws over the final 17 seconds.

Langford was hit in the head with 2:45 left and sustained a severe concussion, Self said. Moody left the game with 1:29 remaining after injuring his ankle. Self didn't know the status of either player for Kansas' next game, at Iowa State on Wednesday.

Neither team shot well. Kansas was 21-for-53 from the field (39.6 percent), including 4-for-16 from three-point range. Kentucky fared worse, shooting 21-for-68 (30.9 percent), including 6-for-26 from beyond the arc.

**No. 15 Texas 79, Baylor 60:** Daniel Gibson scored 18 points, Kenton Paulino had 17, and LaMarcus Aldridge had 17 points and 11 rebounds for the Longhorns (12-2) in the Big 12 opener for both teams. Gibson and Paulino combined for nine of Texas' 11 three-pointers.

Tim Bush had 20 points for the visiting Bears (7-4), who have lost 14 straight to the Longhorns.



Kansas' Keith Langford lowers his shoulder to drive past Kentucky's Chuck Hayes during the second half of the Jayhawks' victory.

## Basketball coaches making headway with NCAA

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS

The Associated Press

GRAPEVINE, Texas — Basketball coaches got initial approval from the NCAA on most of their proposals seeking more access to players and prospects, but they still have plenty of convincing to do.

NCAA Division I vice president David Berst said many administrators and faculty are concerned that coaches are trying to get more practice time and more control of their players. Coaches contend their purpose is to have more mentoring opportunities.

"Work has to be done in trust-gap issues," Berst said Sunday. "That is the impediment we need to overcome."

There were 44 proposals from the National Association of Basketball Coaches and the Womens Basketball Coaches Association

among 146 for various sports considering Sunday by the NCAA Division I Management Council.

The council advanced a proposal to make permanent a 12th football game for sports for Division I and I-AA teams.

All proposals that get initial approval are subject to comment until the management council meets again in April. The council will then consider the proposals again before deciding which ones to send to the NCAA Board of Directors for final approval.

When directors meet Monday, the final day of the NCAA convention, they are expected to approve an academic reform package that will lead to scholarship reductions for teams with poor academic performance. President Myles Brand has said the measures "will change the culture of college sports."

Universities and colleges

would get annual reports outlining academic progress of athletes and longer-term graduation success rates. There would be minimum standards that teams would have to reach.

American East Conference commissioner Chris Monasch, the chairman of the Management Council, said a "significant portion" of the council's daylong meeting Sunday was spent on the basketball proposals.

Since becoming NCAA president two years ago, Brand had urged basketball coaches to get involved with trying to correct what they considered problems.

That led to the package of proposals from the coaches.

Many of the ideas are designed to allow more access to players and signees, including the ability to work with players during the offseason and to observe voluntary, non-organized activities like pickup games.

"The backbone of what they wanted is still in place," Monasch said.

Still, Berst said the proposals likely would have failed "if this had been the final vote. . . . It runs to the lack of trust, and whether coaches are sincere in their claims."

Coaches claim that additional access to players could lead to greater retention and higher graduation rates.

Monasch said some of the coaches' proposals were initially turned down, but were revived and forwarded after further discussion.

The council denied proposals to permit benefits to men's basketball players such as occasional meals and special circumstance gifts of up to \$50 for birthdays and such. Also rejected was a proposal to allow schools to pay airfare for one person to accompany prospects on official visits.

## QBs set for Senior Bowl

The Associated Press

MOBILE, Ala. — Auburn's Jason Campbell, Georgia's David Greene and Arizona State's Andrew Walter will share quarterback duties for the South team in this month's Senior Bowl.

The North quarterbacks are three top NFL prospects: Akron's Charlie Frye, Connecticut's Dan Orlovsky and Purdue's Kyle Orton.

Tennessee Bay Buccaneers coach Jon Gruden will coach the South in the Jan. 29 game at Ladd-Peebles Stadium, Norv Turner of the Oakland Raiders will coach the North.

Campbell, the SEC's offensive player of the year, led undefeated Auburn to an SEC championship and a No. 2 ranking. His 31 career victories are the most for an Auburn quarterback.

# Beltran, Mets reach preliminary agreement

BY RONALD BLUM  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Carlos Beltran is on the verge of becoming the latest free-agent star to join the rebuilt New York Mets, following Pedro Martinez in an effort to turn around a team seeking its first World Series title since 1986. A day after the All-Star outfielder let the deadline to re-sign with Houston pass, Beltran reached a preliminary agreement Sunday night on a \$119 million,

seven-year contract with the Mets that includes an \$11 million signing bonus.

"We have good-faith terms, and we're working toward the final agreement," Beltran's agent, Scott Boras said. "We're near the end of it, but not quite complete."

The Mets, who haven't made the playoffs since 2000, just last month lured Martinez from the Boston Red Sox with a \$53 million, four-year deal. They declined comment on their talks with Beltran.

New York and Boras, spent Sunday negotiating the salaries for each season, the amount of deferred payments and the schedule of payment.

Beltran was due to come to New York for a physical Monday. The sides intended to announce the deal Tuesday — the last day before a change in federal rules makes signing bonuses subject to increased taxes.

Across town, the Yankees planned to hold a news conference Tuesday to announce their

acquisition of Randy Johnson. The Big Unit also was to have his physical in New York on Monday, the last step needed to finalize the drawn-out trade talks for a deal in which the Yankees will send to Arizona pitchers Javier Vazquez and Brad Halsey, catcher Dioner Navarro and \$9 million.

Navarro will be sent to the Dodgers with pitcher William Jerez and two other prospects for outfielder Shawn Green and \$10 million.

Green and Arizona reached an

agreement in principle Sunday on a \$32 million, three-year contract, which would allow that trade to be finalized.

The latest twist of this is that we effectively traded Randy Johnson for Vazquez, Halsey, Shawn Green and \$19 million," Arizona managing partner Ken Kendrick said.

The deal will give Green a \$2 million signing bonus, \$10.5 million a year, \$8 million in 2006 and \$9.5 million in 2007. The agreement includes a mutual option for a fourth year, with a \$2 million buyout should the Diamondbacks decide not to retain Green.

Los Angeles is waiting on that trade before signing off on a \$36 million, four-year deal with pitcher Derek Lowe.

Lowe said from his home in Fort Myers, Fla., he wasn't sure if a deal had been finalized, but he planned to be in Los Angeles on Monday.

"I'm flying to L.A. [Monday] morning, that is all I know," the 31-year-old right-hander said Sunday night. "I think I'm taking a physical."

Beltran, who helped Houston come within a victory of its first World Series last year, will become the 10th player in baseball history to agree to a deal worth \$100 million or more — getting the biggest contract deal since Jason Giambi's \$120 million, seven-year agreement with the Yankees in December 2001.

His average salary of \$17 million will tie Houston's Jeff Bagwell for the seventh-highest, trailing only Alex Rodriguez (\$25.2 million), Manny Ramirez (\$20 million), Derek Jeter (\$18.9 million), Sammy Sosa and Barry Bonds (both \$18 million), and Giambi (\$17.1 million).

Houston offered a guaranteed \$100 million, seven-year contract, which included a \$14 million option for 2012 with a \$2 million buyout, an Astros executive said Sunday on the condition of anonymity.

If the option were exercised, the deal would have been worth \$112 million for eight seasons.

Another person in the talks, also speaking on the condition of anonymity, said Astros owner Drayton McLane raised the guaranteed offer to \$108 million Saturday night. That figure was disputed by the Astros executive.

McLane turned down Beltran's demand for a no-trade clause, which became an obstacle to a deal, perhaps a fatal one.

"That was one aspect, but there certainly were other parts," McLane said. "They were trying to see which was the best deal they could get. We were close, but there were a number of issues that had to be resolved that never came together. There were just too many things going on."

Boras also spoke several times with the Yankees on Saturday night, and proposed a \$100 million, six-year contract for Beltran, a high-ranking baseball official said on the condition he not be identified. While the Yankees told Boras they thought highly of Beltran, they turned down the offer because they didn't want to commit \$140 million — \$100 million in salary and \$40 million in luxury tax.

AP Sports Writers Bob Baum in Phoenix and John Nadel in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

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## SPORTS



Beltran, Mets reach preliminary \$119 million deal, Page 31

# Vikings pick off Packers



Minnesota Vikings receiver Randy Moss (84) tries to break away from Green Bay Packers cornerback Al Harris (31) after catching a pass in the first quarter of their NFC wild-card game Sunday in Green Bay, Wis.

## Moss, Minnesota stun Green Bay in NFC wild-card game

BY DAVE CAMPBELL

The Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Randy Moss and the Minnesota Vikings finally figured out how to finish.

They did it against their bitter border rival in an outdoor playoff game, no less, following an up-roarious week that revolved around their moody star receiver's latest misdeed.

Moss caught two touchdown passes, staying on the field for every second, to help the sixth-seeded Vikings speed past the stunned Green Bay Packers on Sunday, 31-17.

"We never bought into the negativity," said Daunte Culpepper, who threw for 284 yards and four

touchdowns and watched Minnesota's frequently dismal defense intercept Brett Favre four times.

The Vikings, joining this year's St. Louis Rams as the only 8-8 teams to win a postseason game, will travel to Philadelphia next weekend. The Rams play at Atlanta in the other NFC semifinal.

For the second straight season, Minnesota started strong and faded down the stretch — losing seven of the last 10 games. After missing the playoffs with a last-second loss at Arizona in 2003, the Vikings qualified this time only because the conference was so weak.

"They let us in," linebacker Chris Claiborne said, "and now they've got to kick us out."

Green Bay swept the season series with a pair of 34-31 victories on game-ending field goals from Ryan Longwell, including the NFC North-clinching win at the Metrodome on Dec. 24.

A Minnesota loss at Washington in the regular-season finale — remembered best for Moss' frustrated walk off the field as his teammates prepared to try a desperation onside kick — set up this rematch between teams supposedly headed in different directions.

On top of their second-half slump, the worst record over the final 10 regular-season games by any team in the 72-year history of the NFL playoffs, the Vikings

came in with just two victories in their previous 22 outdoor games.

The Packers, meanwhile, won nine of their last 11 and appeared poised to make a serious run in a diluted NFC.

"I sure wish we could've went on and seen what we could've done," said Favre, who completed 22 of 33 passes for 216 yards and threw four interceptions.

Minnesota scored on its first three possessions, jumping to a 17-0 lead. Green Bay, which played without Pro Bowl receiver Javon Walker in the second half because of a bruised left shin, cut the deficit to seven on Favre's 4-yard touchdown toss to Bubba Franks.

SEE VIKINGS ON PAGE 27

## Favre left pondering retirement

BY ARNIE STAPLETON

The Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Packers coach Mike Sherman has a lot of work to do overhauling his dismal defense and keeping his offensive line together. He just hopes he doesn't have to look for a new starting quarterback this offseason, too.

Sherman and Brett Favre met for 45 minutes about the quarterback's future after Green Bay's unanticipated early exit from the playoffs Sunday.

Favre, who threw four interceptions in the Packers' 31-17 loss to the Minnesota Vikings, said he didn't want his poor performance to play a role in his decision whether to retire or return to Green Bay for a 15th NFL season.

"It would be easy to walk off the field after that game and say, 'I've had enough,'" Favre said. "But I'm going to try to be as fair to myself and to this team as possible. I've had a lot of great games. This obviously was not one of them. But I can't base my decision on this game."

Sherman asked Favre not to let this game tilt his decision when he makes up his mind about 2005.

Favre is still on top of his game — he threw for more than 4,000 yards and 30 touchdowns again this season — and he's guided Green Bay to the playoffs 10 times, tops in the NFL during the salary cap era.

But losing hurts Favre more and more as the years go by and time ticks away on his stellar career.

Favre wanted to give Sherman an answer by the draft in April, but Sherman wants one much sooner and will give him a deadline by the time the players scatter to their offseason homes this week.

SEE FAVRE ON PAGE 27



Favre

Colts' Manning wins second straight NFL MVP award Page 29